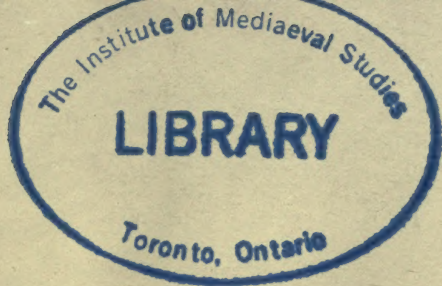


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THE HISTORY OF HAILSHAM.

Speculum HISTORY OF HAILSHAM. Aug 21. 1901

History of Hailsham. By L. F. Salzmann. (Farncombe and Co., Lewes.)—Mr. Salzmann is quite right in making no apology for the publication of this book. Every local history, so it be told by a competent person, is full of instruction. Hailsham has never been a place of importance, but for this very reason the conditions of life which we find to have existed in it were normal and representative. The first definite information that we have about Hailsham comes from Domesday Book. It then contained arable land for four ploughs (about six hundred and twenty acres), four cottagers with one ox, and two salt-pans worth 3s. 6d. each, the feudal lord having eleven others worth 24s. 6d. in all. The difference in value between King Edward's time and the Survey was 110s. against 20s. In the thirteenth century the manor had passed into the hands of the Marmions; in the sixteenth Lord Dacre had it; after him came the Gages; it has passed through various hands since that time. We need not give other examples of the information which Mr. Salzmann has been at the pains to collect. Perhaps the most interesting section is that which refers to the monastic foundations. Of these there were two. One was the Abbey of Otham, transferred in 1205 to Bayham (near Frant, and now the seat of Lord Camden), the other the Priory of Michelham. The Otham property at the Dissolution was valued at £18 8s. 2½d. Michelham Priory was founded in 1229 by Gilbert de Aquila, of Pevensey. It was of the Augustinian Order. Its story is told by a succession of documents, and can scarcely be called edifying. (Of course it is the external relations of the House that come thus into evidence, and these, in the nature of things, are often involved in dispute.) We do not hear the whole story, but it is certainly strange to find the Prior detaining the body that had been cast up on the shore when it was being taken to burial. In 1291 the House had an income equivalent to £1,500, and it accumulated property during the centuries that follow. It had a vigorous head in John Leem (1376-1415). His successors were not so estimable. William Loudon was deposed in 1433, and Laurence Wynchelsea, who came after him, was no improvement. There were but seven brethren. (He was commanded to add three before the next Easter, the visitation having been held in September.) His own household was limited to "one chaplain, one esquire, one chamberer, one valet, and one page of the kitchen." He was to be content with four horses. The canons were bidden not to "frequent the tavern that is outside the gates." Another visitation, held four months later, reveals great delinquencies. The Prior had sold timber, plate, oxen, horses, books, in fact everything that he could; had given corrodies (or support for life) to one Wallen and his wife for £26 13s. 4d. Yet another visitation in 1478 is still more compromising. Gross irregularities are revealed. The penalties imposed were curiously light: all the canons were to fast for one day on bread and water; one, who had confessed to incontinence, was "gated" till a sub-Prior, who had the reputation for strictness of life, should arrive. The Bishop must have been used to such doings. It is in these visitations, not in the reports of Henry VIII.'s officials, that we find the truth.

THE HISTORY
OF THE
PARISH OF HAILSHAM,
THE ABBEY OF OTHAM
AND THE
PRIORY OF MICHELHAM.

By L. F. SALZMANN.

“ . . . It is unprofitable to study the history of a state in isolation; not wars and treaties only, but the internal vicissitudes of the commonwealth form the real subject matter of enquiry, and the smallest details, biographical, economical or topographical, may have the greatest value.”—MACAULAY.

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PREFACE.

FOR the existence of this book I make no apology; the compilation of the history of an obscure parish, if it does not render any great service to either literature or science, has its value, and if the result of my work be to induce others to perform a similar service for other localities—not, however, using this book as a model—it will have justified its publication. Writing for the antiquary, more especially the Sussex antiquary, rather than the general reader, I have preferred to keep my book within reasonable limits by cutting down the “padding” rather than by sacrificing any original material; I have, however, endeavoured to connect the details together so that the result may be something more than a dry string of facts; if I have failed, those who have attempted a similar task will, I am sure, sympathise with me.

The district covered in the following pages is practically untrodden ground: it is true that in 1884 Thomas Geering, shoemaker, of Hailsham, published a book entitled “Our Parish,” containing some fifty chatty little essays on Hailsham and its inhabitants in the earlier part of the nineteenth century, but though amusing and locally interesting, it made no pretence to archæological value. Otham Abbey was the subject of a paper in the fifth volume of the Sussex Archæological Society’s “Collections” by the Rev. G. M. Cooper, who also wrote an article on Michelham Priory in the next volume of the “Collections.” Neither paper was very exhaustive and the latter especially contained several mistakes. Comparatively little, therefore, of the matter that follows has been brought together before, and much is here printed for the first time. While it does not contain any startling discoveries it will, I think, be found to throw a certain amount of light on the early history of this part of Sussex. I may mention, for instance, the probable identification of two Domesday names not previously located, and the exact date at which the manor of Laughton came into the Pelham family, which I believe was not known. The very large number of names, all of which are indexed, should be of considerable interest to the Sussex genealogist, and the student of monasticism will, I hope, be interested in the visitations of

Michelham Priory and the account of the election of a prior. Of some of the shortcomings of this work I am already aware and others will no doubt be revealed by the omniscient reviewer; there is, however, no need for me to point them out here.

As regards the sources of my information: as a rule I have gone, when possible, to the original document quoted, and when a direct reference is given it implies that I have myself verified that reference; in every case, I trust, in which the quotation is made second-hand I have given the authority therefor;—[*Cal.*] implying that the authority is one of the calendars, printed or manuscript, in the Record Office. In many cases I have given documents in full not so much for the value of the details to my own subject as for their possible value to others working on kindred lines. That I have occasionally misread and misunderstood my material is more than probable; I trust, however, that these mistakes are neither numerous nor important.

There only remains the pleasant task of thanking the many who have given me generous and valuable assistance, and I hope any whose names I may omit will accept the assurance of my gratitude. My especial thanks are due to Lord Hawkesbury for the detailed pedigree of the Medley family and their descendants, to Messrs. Hunt, Currey & Nicholson for free access to the Otham Court Rolls and other important documents, to Messrs. Gadsden & Treherne for free access to the Court Rolls of Downash and Bowley, and similarly to Sir Robert Raper for the Bishops' Registers; also to the Rev. W. Hudson, F.S.A., the Rev. G. Hennessy, W. Dunkin, Esq., and J. E. A. Gwynne, Esq., F.S.A. Especial thanks are also due to P. M. Johnston, Esq., for several excellent photographs of architectural features of Michelham Priory; also to the Committee of the Sussex Archæological Society for permission to use two of their wood-blocks and to reproduce the plate of Otham chapel; also to Mr. E. Smith, of Hailsham, for leave to reproduce certain photographs.

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.	
HAILSHAM—Situation and Extent—Population—Bounds— The “Liberty” and “Foreign” Divisions—Their Bounds	PAGES 1—8
CHAPTER II.	
A General Description of the Parish	9—18
CHAPTER III.	
Pre-Norman Remains—The Name, Derivation and Varieties of Spelling—Domesday Book—Descent of the Manor— and of the Vill—Market.....	19—34
CHAPTER IV.	
General History—Jews in the Thirteenth Century—An Early Mention of the Common Pond—Hundred Rolls— Official Corruption—A Fourteenth Century Drinking Bout—John of Bocholte and Those in Authority—Jack Cade’s Rebellion—End of the Feudal Period.....	35—46
CHAPTER V.	
History Continued—The Reformation—Generalities— Puritans, and their Names (Christian and Otherwise)— Papists—The Commonwealth—Sale of Royal Property —The Eighteenth Century—The Parish Clerk and the Affidavit—Churchwardens’ and Overseers’ Accounts— Doctor Long—The Workhouse, and Poor Relief— Eccentric Spelling—Military History—Sport—Recent Events	47—66
CHAPTER VI.	
Downash—Identical with La Doune—Descent of the Manor—Lewens Manor—Bowley Manor—Amberstone— Magham Down—Harebeating—Polegate	67—78
CHAPTER VII.	
The Liberty of Pevensey—Its Quarters—Surveys—Wil- lingdon Manor—Pevensey Castle and Chapel—Alciston Manor and Battle Abbey—Lands held by Other Religious Establishments.....	79—96
CHAPTER VIII.	
The Church—Possession Disputed—Settlement, and Ordi- nation of Vicarage—Suggested Date and Manner of Foundation—Miscellaneous Notices—Injured by the Early Puritans—Glebe—Descent of Advowson and Rectory—Architectural Features	97—122

CHAPTER IX.		PAGES
Vicars and Assistant Clergy—Churchwardens		123—140
CHAPTER X.		
Genealogy—Lists of Inhabitants—Nonae Roll—Subsidies —Muster Roll—Parish Register—Poll Book—Land- owners in 1780.....		141—152
CHAPTER XI.		
Genealogy—Notices of Certain Families.....		153—172
CHAPTER XII.		
OTHAM—Pedigree of de Dene—Foundation of the Abbey— Early Rental—Removal to Bayham—Pedigree of Brade —Benefactions—Architectural Remains—History Sub- sequent to Removal—Existence as a Parish		173—190
CHAPTER XIII.		
Descent of the Manor.....		191—197
CHAPTER XIV.		
MICHELHAM—Pedigree of de Aquila—Foundation of the Priory—The Park of Pevensy—Benefactions to the Priory—Royal Visit—Churches of Alfriston and Fletch- ing Obtained.....		198—213
CHAPTER XV.		
Priors and Brethren—Petitions—Appointments—John Leem, an Energetic Prior—Visitations—Bad State of the Priory, and of Monasteries in General—Heretical (Lol- lard) Opinions—Resignation and Election of Prior— Dissolution		214—238
CHAPTER XVI.		
Architectural Features—Suppression of the Priory—Valua- tion of Lands—and of Goods—Descent of the Property —and of the Manor of Michelham Parkgate.....		239—258
APPENDIX I.		
Marriages, 1558—1600		259—266
APPENDIX II.		
Consents of Marriage, 1653—1658		267—272
ADDENDA ET CORRIGENDA		273—275
GLOSSARY		276—277
INDEX NOMINUM		279—301
INDEX LOCORUM		302—308

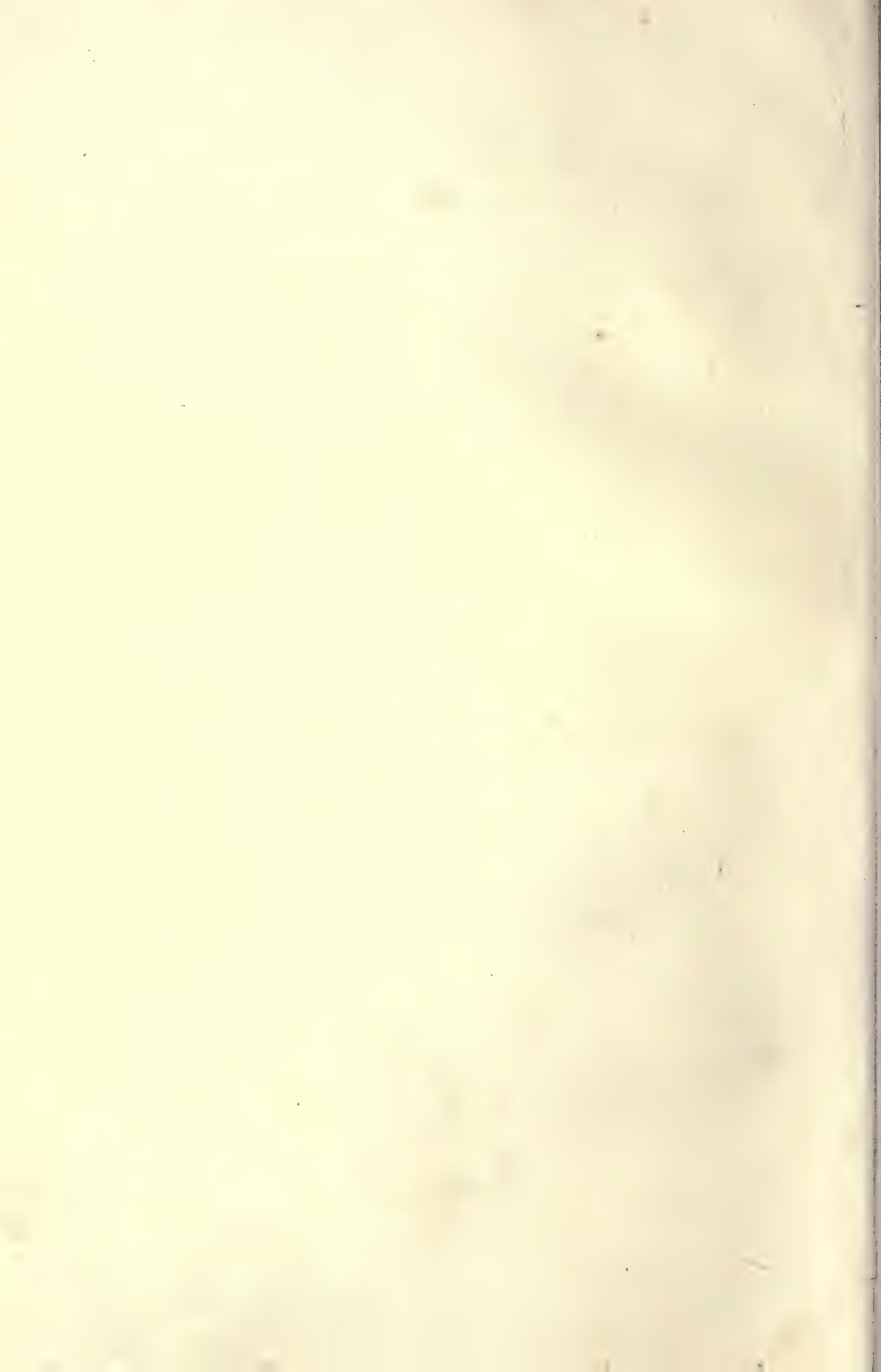
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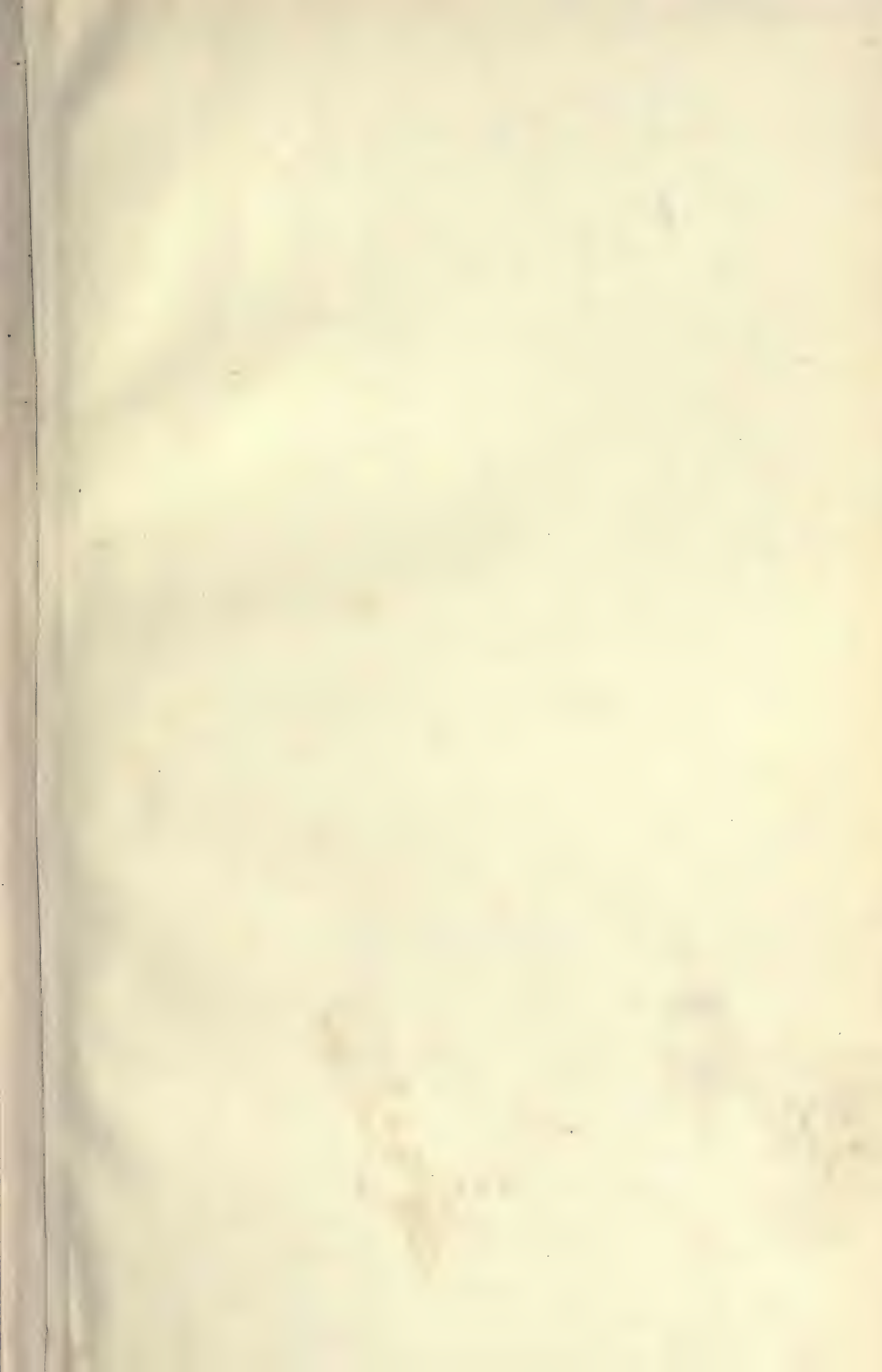
MAP OF THE PARISH OF HAILSHAM	Frontispiece
HAILSHAM FROM THE CHURCH TOWER.....	to face Page 9
HAILSHAM CHURCH—THE CHANCEL.....	„ „ 97
„ „ ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS	„ „ 113
„ „ NORTH AISLE.....	„ „ 119
„ „ AND VICARAGE	„ „ 123
OTHAM—FARM AND CHAPEL.....	„ „ 173
PEDIGREE OF THE FAMILY OF MEDLEY	„ „ 196
MICHELHAM PRIORY—FROM THE NORTH-WEST	„ „ 198
„ „ THE VAULTED ROOM	„ „ 214
„ „ SEAL AND FIREPLACE	„ „ 220
„ „ GROUND PLAN	„ „ 239
„ „ NORTH WALL OF REFECTORY..	„ „ 240
„ „ CARVED BOSS AND CAPITAL ..	„ „ 241
„ „ VAULTED ROOM AND SLYPE ..	„ „ 242

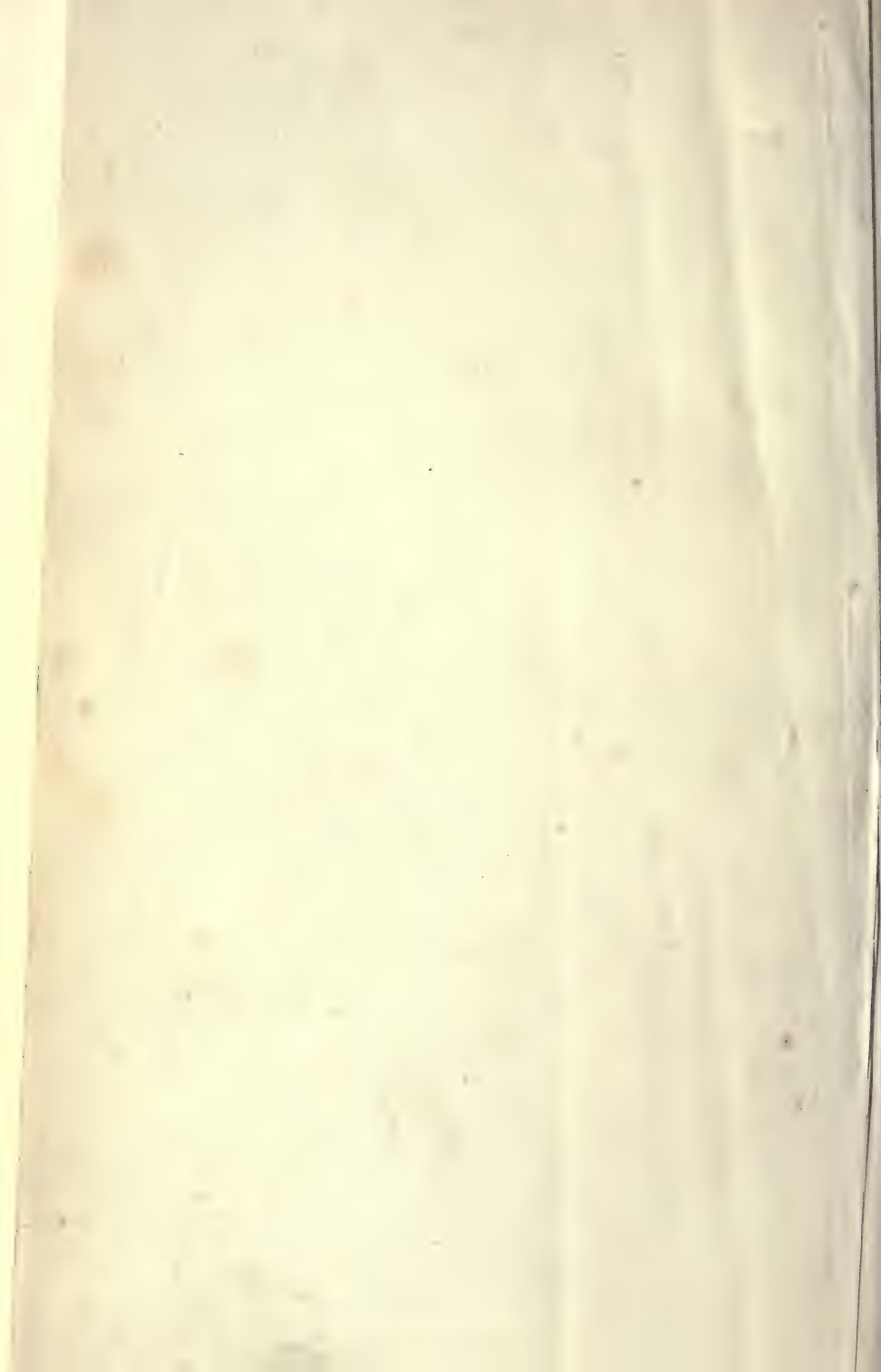
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HISTORY OF HAILSHAM.

CHAPTER I.

THE parish of Hailsham lies in East Sussex, in the rape of Pevensey, hundred of Dill, some seven miles north of Eastbourne and twelve east of Lewes (the exact situation of the church being ¹Lat. 50° 51' 48"·2 north, Long. 0° 15' 39·3" east). It is bounded on the north by the parishes of Wartling and Hellingly, on the west by Arlington, Wilmington, Folkington and Jevington, on the south by Jevington and Willingdon, and on the east by Westham, Pevensey and Herstmonceux. At its greatest extent, from north to south, it measures just over five miles, and from east to west three miles. The total acreage is ²5,330 acres, consisting mainly of pasture, with a certain amount of arable and wood; the whole of the parish is situated on the wealden clay, with the exception of the extreme northern portion, which is on the Tunbridge Wells sand, and the alluvial soil of the marshes; the rateable value in 1899 being £18,052.

³In 1801 the parish contained 132 houses and 897 inhabitants; in 1811 the population was 1,029, and, continuing to increase at about the same rate, in 1821 it was 1,278, and in 1831, 1,445; by 1861 it had risen to 2,098, and in the last census return, 1891, was 3,369. Since this date the population has increased very considerably, owing partly to the growth of the neighbouring town of Eastbourne.

¹ "Horsfield's History of Sussex."

² According to Horsfield, 4,454 acres; and in the Tithe Commutation Book of 1842 it is estimated at 4,740 acres, of which 1,212 were arable, 14 being under hops, 1,975 marsh land, 660 meadow, 257 woodland, 120 common lands.

³ "Shoberl's History of Sussex."

Amongst the papers in the church chest is a detailed survey of the bounds of the parish, made in 1829. It is, unfortunately, not quite complete, the north-eastern boundaries not being given, but what there is of it is of some interest and, if followed on the map, will give a fairly good idea of the position and nature of the boundary marks and, incidentally, it gives a certain amount of information as to the landowners of the time. The survey commences at the extreme north and continues down the west side of the parish.

The Boundries of the Parish of Hailsham May 28 1829 begining at the Cross way near Carters Corner at the Stone wear the 4 Parishes⁴ meet Comencing along by Carters Corner house down the Road to Ambrous stone Gate to the Bridge, which River or Stream following by, Turning sudenly to the Left to Spindle Bridge, then Turning to the right following the Water coorse between M^r Rickman land and M^r Longleys at Harebeating to M^r Rickmans lower Brook and following the Water course through the Middle of the two Brook to the Hailsham Road from Ambrous Stone and directly crossing the Road to a flat stone lying in the Ditch being an Ancient Boundary mark, from thence sudingly turning to the Right along the Ditch on the Southwest side of the Road leaving the short piece of Road in Hellingly to the Pinick going across the Turnpike Road near to Oxleys, passing on the same water course leaving Oxleys house and Garden in Hellingly and taking the shale and Cottage and one field of M^r D. Rickman in Hailsham Parish to Hawkes Wood crossing the Turnpike Road at the Pinick into Hawks Wood, following the Watercoares through the Wood to the Middle of the Road at Hellingly Workhouse wear the Pinick is going up the Road to ⁵Lip + taking half the road in Hailsham Parish to the Turnpike at Lip +. Turning the corner across the Pinick ajoining Arlington Parish leaving Hellingly Parish and keep on up the Road past Hemsted house to Knockhatch Stream, then Turning short to the left round the stream Down to Fosters lower Greenfield adjoyning M^r Waters field called Burnt Land then up Fosters Green field adjoyning M^r Waters corn field to the corner of Busheyfield Wood, Turning short up to the right to the Watercourse Ditch to a feild of Jno. Foster leading round adjoyning Busheyfield Wood to Fox Hall land to the Pinick through M^r Woodward's land up the stream leading to M^r Ingrams land to the Hop Garden Wood to the end of Gilridge Wood Wilmington, Turning to the left leading to Robin Post Lane Turning to the Left hand taking half the road in Hailsham, adjoyning to Folkington Parish, leading down to some Boxes (?) the left hand side of the Road then turn to the right hand side over into the Wood across the Wood between M^r Ingram and M^r Harrison leading between L^d Geo. Cav^d and M^r Harrison, out to the Turnpike Road, Turning to the right adjoyning Folkington Parish,

⁴ Hailsham, Hellingly, Warbleton, Herstmonceux.

⁵ Leap Cross.

the Wall below B. Osbornes house up the Turnpike Road to end of nett Wood to knaves acres in Wilmington parish along the Turnpike Road to the first Pinick near the Crossways adjoining Jevington parish, Then turning across M^r Fielders Firzeffeld to a stone in the headge across the next field to another stone in the Hedge Row, turning to the right hand along past the Hovle to the Pinick along the Stream to the right out to the Oak trees out at the Turnpike Road crossing the Turnpike Road to a Boundary Mark in the hedge in M^r Alfreys field then crossing the Midle of the Field to a Flat stone in the hedge lying their for the last Forty Years over the hedge across the Old Road leaving Jevington in the middle of the Wood over the ^eKiddy into the Morths adjoining Wilmington Parish round to the North Corner of the up field belonging to M^r Alfrey turning to the left along the raff Morth Down to the lower corner turning suddenly to the left to the Watercourse Ditch following the Watercourse leaving Jevington Parish on the right to the lower part of M^r Lanctry second field then turning suddenly to the right along by the side of M^r Lams 10 acres up to the Turnpike Road taking the Turnpike Road in Hailsham parish turning to the right along the Turnpike as far as the old hedge, then turning sudenly to the left along the Scorewells to the corner adjoining Jevington parish leaving Folkington to the right Down the fields by the row at the Top of leading out to Warick Lane, then turning sudingly to the left along the short piece of Road to the Paygate, turning sudingley to the Right taking half the Turnpike Road to the Pinick across the Road leaving Jevington Parish, then turn down the stream to the left adjoining Willingdon Parish, following the stream to the lower part of M^r Fielders Brook leaving the stream turning sudenly to the Left up the Ditch between M^r Filders Piece called the hayfields; Turning suddingly to the left along the headg row to the corner of Folkington peace crossing the Water corse leaving Folkington to the right, then crossing the Road along the headg turning to the left along M^r Whitmill field leading up his field to the Old Blind Lane then turning sudingly to the Right along the Old Blind Lane adjoining Folkington parish as far as the Crossway adjoining Westham Parish and Ditons Wood wear the two lanes meet Turning down the lane to the left and along the lane down to a small gate leading into Garden Esq^{res} Land along the hedge past the two oak Trees leading down to the Marsh Ditch then along the marsh ditch between M^r Pinyon and M^r Drays marsh ground along that ditch to Malors sewer Turning short to the left round the sewer to the Turnpike Road then turning to the right to Marling Bridge from thence turning to the left following the sewer past Glydle down the sewer to the front of Honey Crocks then turning short to the right to the Arch, crossing the sewer on the left, Along the sewer to Glynly Gut leaving Westham Parish.

Here the survey ends. Several of the places mentioned will be found on the map, and the position of the others can be easily ascertained from the details given.

^e Kiddy = a faggot stack.

Besides the town of Hailsham, which lies round or rather to the west and south of the church, there are several hamlets within the parish, namely, Cacklebury, adjacent to and continuous with Hailsham proper on the south-west; Polegate, the most considerable of these, at the south, with a railway junction and a church; Magham Down, at the extreme north, with a mission room; and Harebeating, between Magham Down and Hailsham. Amongst the more important farms may be mentioned Amberstone, Moorbrook (now called Mulbrooks), Sareland, White Dyke and Marshfoot. The manors within the parish are Hailsham (otherwise called Earsham), Bowley, Downash, Otham and portions of Michelham Park Gate, Willingdon, Gotham, Alciston and Berwick.

A considerable portion of the parish—about two-fifths—lies in the ancient Liberty of Pevensey, the Lowey or Liberty being a district that enjoyed certain privileges and exemptions in return for services rendered with the Navy of the Cinque Ports, of which Pevensey was one of the members. The portion of the parish outside the Liberty is distinguished by the title of Hailsham Foreign. The boundary between the two divisions runs, beginning at the east, down the marsh road, leading from Newbridge to Hailsham Church, turning to the south some way before Marshfoot Farm is reached; close to White Dyke it makes a deep bend to the east, just taking White Dyke in the Liberty portion, then following the road to Downash and thence to where the railway gates now are, it bends towards the south-west corner of the parish, making, however, a deep divagation so as to leave Mulbrooks in the Foreign portion, coincides for a short distance with the boundary of the parish, then turns sharp to the east and follows the Polegate road to the eastern border. Why Mulbrooks should be thus carefully left in the Foreign portion is a puzzle, more especially as in the sixteenth century not only was Moorebrook—the ancient name of this estate—within the Lowey, but it gave its name to one of the numerous “quarters” into which the Lowey was divided. I am inclined to believe that the original boundary of the Liberty ran across

north of Mulbrooks to the western border of the parish. Why it should have been altered I cannot say, nor when, unless it was about 1723, at which date I find that the term "the Liberty portion of Hailsham" in the Court Book of Pevensay Hundred was changed to "Downash and Otham." One reason for holding that the boundary has been altered at this point is that the bounds of the "Borough" or "Half-hundred" of Hailsham, as given in the two following sixteenth century surveys, are identical with those of the Liberty down to here, but not beyond. The date of the first of these surveys is 1563.

Half Hundred of Haylesham parcell of Hundred of Dyll.

Jurors	{	Thomas Bodell	{	John Swayne	{	Richard Harmer
		Nicholas Prester		Laurence Nevell		Roger Brasier
		John Twysdeane		William Sheperde		

Beginneth at Horsebridge and leadeth to Haukesgrene in parish of Hellingley, thence to Amberstone, to the woode of Sir Richarde Sackville knight called Muntrickes Woode thence to the further end of Mountgombre Downe as the watercourse leadeth to the Corner of Wanmore and so into Lawrens Wades lands which is in the parish of Herstmounseux thence to the Hye standing woode of the said Lawrence. And thence to Milkingfeldes corner, to crosse Bowle, thence to Sackfeldes Furlonges. From thence to Sir Richard Sackvyle's mershe called Sackvile, Frome thence to a pece of londe called Grenelonde. And so to a Peretre which standith now by the common sewer And so to Newbridge, Frome thence to Wallandegate thence to Hocke Gate thence as the way lyeth to Hamgate, thence to a Marke Oke in Ham. To hamme Lane and so along the said lane to a pondehedde in gardeners lande. Thence as the way leedyth to Buntess corner. Thence to Shadewell corner as the way Ledythe to Barnardes Corner, thence to the corner of yersham as the watercourse leadith to Woobones Gutt, as the watercourse leadith to Bowens Gutt crosse the Reden to Okley corner, cross the Wallandes to the corner of the Hake in Litlyngton And so cross Haylesham lande unto a gate of the lands of Michellham And so from thence ledinge downe by the lane to the corner of Littlehempsted in the parisshe of Haylesham Frome the said corner to Starneasshe Ryver And so as the Ryver leadith to Horsebridge aforesaid in the parish of Arlington.

Other lands within the said half-hundred not included above :

Beginneth at Growebridge which is in the parish of Hellyngley and leadith to Matchinges Corner and so as the way leadith downe to the River; thence as the water course Leadith to Growbridge aforesaid.

Beginneth at the corner of the West side of the Myllstone And so leadith as the way lyeth to Powlegate Corner And leadith as the

¹ Duchy of Lancaster: "Miscellanea," Div. xviii., 3.

water course commeth crosse the streate at Powlegate to the Ryver of Wannocke and so to Wannockebridge Thence to the corner of Wotton Thorowghe the lande. Thence unto the highway which leadith thorowghe the same lande And so to the pounde of Varne streate, thence to the Millstone aforesaid.

There is one paryshe within the said half hundred which is	} Haylesham	{ Mannors within the said Parisshe Be	{ Gottham—Gregory Fynes Lord Dakers. Bowley — Richard Sackville knight.

Memorand. that within the said half hundred are two Commens wherof thone is called Megham Downe thother is callyd the Commen of Haylesham.

The next survey, though only sixteen years later, is so far different as to justify its insertion here.

1579. ^aInquisition: Jurors return that y^e Borough of Hailsham is within y^e Liberty of y^e Duchy of Lancaster and within y^e pishes of Hailsham, Hellingley, Arlington and Herstmonceux, and boundeth first from Grove Bridge Corner as y^e High Street leads to Mortimans Corner and between Hailsham market place and ^bH . . . field, from Mortiman's Corner to a Watercourse running against Rob^t Prior's house and thence to Vinall, as y^e Watercourse leads to Grove Bridge—from Hurstbridge to Hawkes Green and so by a little watercourse leading into the High Street which goes to Amberstone, thence to Allendown and along y^e street, there, doth cut in and leadeth to y^e N^o Corner of Megham Down, and as a watercourse leadeth between Megham Down and Tanners, leadeth to y^e end of a Hedge Row in Lawrence Wades Lands, bending to the Highfeild and thence towards y^e upper corner of M^r Tho^s Roots wood and thence along y^e outward Bound of y^e said Tho^s Roots lands to King's Brook; thence to an Hawlder Oak standing between Bowliefield and Arlattfield, thence to a pond of Master Cheyneys of Crawley, thence to Sackfield Garden, thence to a pear tree standing at Megham Gutt, thence to New Bridge, thence to Homestalls Gate, thence to Wallengate, thence to Hook Gate, thence along y^e street to Coolsgate, thence to Hamsnes Gate, thence to a great oak in W^m Edward's ground, thence to Hamm Land, so into Gardners land to a pond against a house some time Tho^s Harvis'; thence along y^e street to Brunts Corner and Shadwells Corner, thence to Uplands Corner and Barnets Corner and so by Barnets Hedge to a Water Gossell to Woburn gutt; from y^e Gossell of Wooburn Gutt to Bonny Gutt, thence to Ryden, as y^e Slank leadeth, into Oekling Corner, thence between two ponds in Highwall Lanes to y^e corner of y^e Hayeck beside Litlington, thence to y^e West Corner of Coolbrook, thence to y^e East Side of Gardhoope, thence to y^e River that runneth from Horsebridge, so to Horsebridge;—on y^e west side of y^e Millstones called y^e Abbots Borough, thence to Poolgate into a meadow leading to y^e Watercourse to Wannock Stream, thence to a corner that leadeth to Wannock, thence to a Lane turning to y^e West

^a Add. MSS., 5,681.

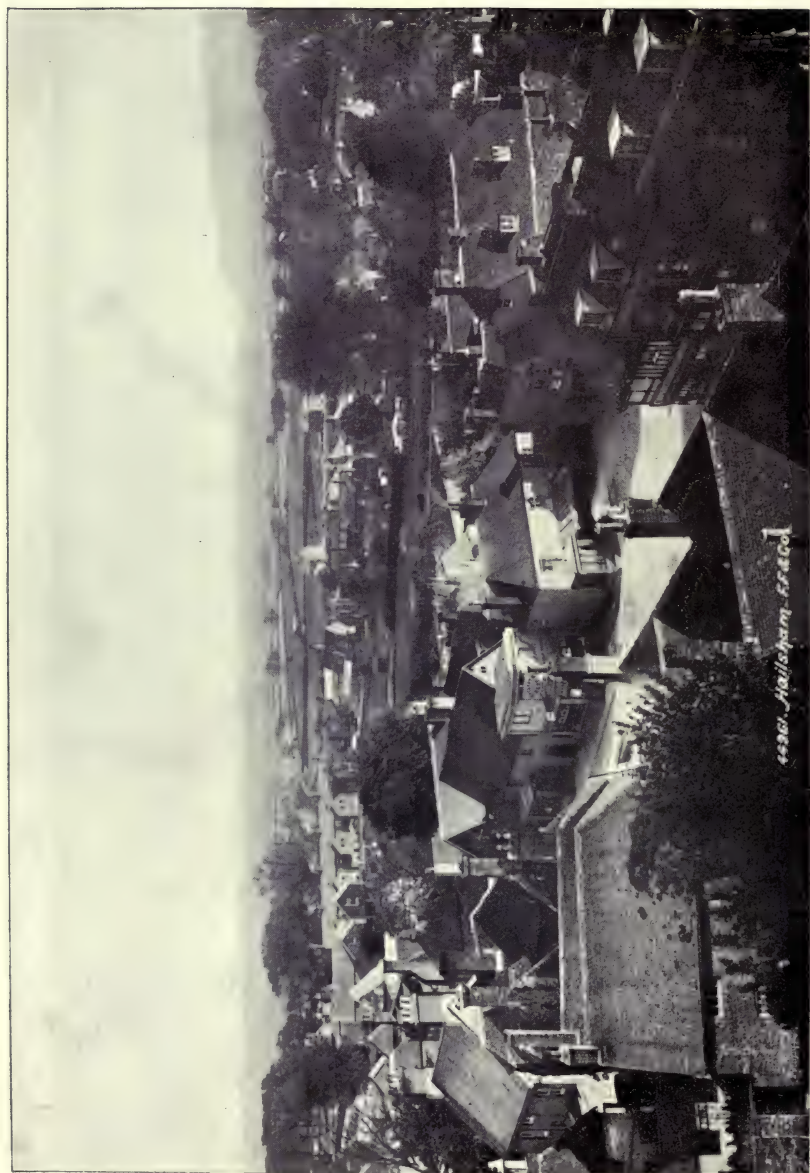
^b Heathfield.

and from y^e Lane to y^e Mount of M^r Jⁿ Selwyn, thence to Cutt Crofts, y^e lands of Rich^d Kenchley, and from Cutt Crofts to y^e Pond, to y^e mill stone, as the way leadeth.

It will be noticed that there is considerable difference in the nomenclature of the two surveys. Both really start from Horsebridge, the first paragraph of the later survey corresponding to the first of the two detached portions given in the earlier, the second portion being represented by the last paragraph. Mountgombre Down and Allendown appear to correspond and doubtless take their names from landowners, though I have met with no other mention of any Montgomery; Wanmore, a name that we shall meet with several times in our historical part, is the corner of Megham Down; the pond of Master Cheyneys was probably one of those on what is now Gillridge Farm. In three cases trees form boundary marks, two of them—the pear at Megham sewer and the oak at Ham—occurring in both surveys; crossing the marshes five successive gates are given and anyone who is well acquainted with the marsh will realise that they are the most conspicuous and frequently the only available landmarks. Of these Homestall Gate is half-way between Newbridge and Marshfoot; Wallande Gate is where the boundary turns to the south, and Coolsgate where it bends in front of White Dyke. Yersham is Long Ershams, on the west side of the road, between the old “Swan” beerhouse and Downash. From this point the exact course of the boundary is rather hard to trace, but apparently it ran straight across north of Mulbrooks and Summer Hill to the parish bounds; High Wallands is Highlands Farm and the gate into the lands of Michelham, *i.e.*, Coolbrook, I identify with the gate into the wood called on the Ordnance Map Bushey field, and Starnash river is the little stream which runs to the Cuckmere, past Goldup Shaw, the Gardhoope of the survey, on the west of Hempsted lane.

The second detached portion corresponds exactly with the southern point of the parish outside the Liberty, the Abbots Borough being presumably the same as Otham Quarter, or the Castelry of Otham, as it is called in a

thirteenth century deed; that is to say, the part of the Liberty connected with the Abbey of Otham. The other portion at Grove Bridge, in Hellingly, is very small and is distant from the nearest point of Hailsham parish by more than a mile; why it should have formed part of Hailsham half-hundred is hard to say.



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THE MARKET SQUARE, FROM THE CHURCH TOWER.

CHAPTER II.

HAVING now considered in detail the bounds of the parish and its divisions, it will be as well to describe shortly the parish as it now is before passing to the historical portion of our subject. For this purpose we will begin with the town. The Market Square, the centre of the old town, as the railway station may be said to be of the new, lies to the south-west of the church. Here it runs four roads—five if "Bony lane" be counted—and in its centre till about 1800 stood the market cross, a simple structure resembling that whose mutilated shaft and base still stand in the picturesque old Saxon village of Alfriston; from its steps doubtless it was that on the xxx day of marche (1603) James the sixth of Scotland was proclaimed King of England in the town of Haylesham—an announcement that was probably received by the worthy inhabitants with unenthusiastic solicitude, and from its steps half a century later were published the Edicts of Marriage, or Banns; but after surviving the iconoclastic zeal of the Puritans it was condemned for obstructing the traffic and swept away, probably without a voice being raised in its behalf. At the north-east corner of the Square is the entrance to the churchyard, under a brick arch between a tavern, disapproved by some cynical humourist "The Good Tavern," and an old house, one room of which, with low-pitched roof and projecting timber, is now used on quarter days as the London County and Provincial Bank. Adjacent to the old house of brick, with a row of stone dwelling houses opposite. The present tower, which rejoices in the good old name, tower of Northchurch, was not that during certain years the same tower was being carried on the westwork of the tower. South of the house the road from Northchurch crosses the Square, runs the new Post Office, built in 1860 to replace an old residential dwelling, once the Episcopi Workhouse and before



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¹⁰ Church Register.

that the "Fleur de Luce" Inn, that stood at the south-west corner of the Square, that is to say, on the opposite side of the Horseye Road, till it was burnt down in that year, its site now affording, with dramatic justice, a shelter for the town fire engine. At the south-western angle a narrow passage, Stony Lane, leads from the Square to what was formerly the Common, and at the north-west corner, between George Street and the High Street, is an old half-timbered house, of which the upper storey projects slightly over the pavement. This old house is always known as "the corner" and has been so known for generations—for centuries, in fact, if I am right in identifying it with the ¹¹"message in the market place of Haylesham being 'le corner house,'" alienated in 1697 by William Stonestreete, clerk to Thomas Colbrond, and by him to Nicholas Sennocke, in whose tenure it then was.

Northwards from the Square leads the High Street, lined on either side with a pleasantly irregular row of houses, most now with such up-to-date shop fronts that it is hard to realise the antiquity of many of them; but go up on to the church tower and run your eye over the quaint old red-tiled roofs, with their deep pitch, sharp angles, dormer windows and massive chimney stacks, and they will carry you back beyond these days of plate-glass, gas and window displays, to the "spacious times of Queen Elizabeth." This row of houses on the right, from the Square to "The Willows," has been there these three centuries and more, backing right into the churchyard, with gravestones peering in at the ground floor windows. Why, at this end, where the "Good Intent" tavern is, lived John at Mill in the days of Richard III. and, as like as not, his father before him. One of the row has perished; that one, next to the west gate of the churchyard, used to be Austin's, the gunsmith's; burnt down some three years ago; stood a long while an unsightly ruin; bought at last for the parish and levelled, affording a view of the church tower.

¹¹ Court Rolls of Manor of Michelham Park Gate.

These houses belonged to Charles Stuart, King and Martyr, or traitor, according to some men; but of how they were sold and who owned them you will find an account further on.

On the opposite side of the road the houses are of much the same age, except that one new red-brick shop has replaced an old stone-built warehouse. Just beyond this, standing back a bit, is the Crown Hotel, the oldest of our inns. In 1632 Nicholas Stonestreet, yeoman, bequeathed to his brother Henry "the house John Humfrey now dwelleth in called the Crowne at Hailsham," and in 1715 William Stonestreet, clerk, alienated to Thomas Colbron ¹² "the messuage called the Crown Inn with stabling, &c.," and in 1717 Stephen Coney is assessed for "the Crown house," which is rated at £6 per annum. The churchwardens' accounts of the end of the eighteenth century, with their frequent entries of sums "spent at Thorpe's"—then landlord of the Crown—show that it was then popular; and now the Corn Exchange room, at the back of it, is the scene of most of our concerts, entertainments, election meetings and other amusements. The ironwork of the sign that swings above the entrance was made at the smithy which formerly stood on the other side of the road. Facing the Crown is "The Willows," the house now occupied by Dr. McDonnell, and before him by Drs. Billing, Cunningham and, I believe, Long, the latter of whom was in practice at the end of last century. Then comes the Parsonage Field, adjoining the church. On the west side of the road again is a block of three houses; in the first of these ¹³ lodged, about the year 1809, Captain Barclay, of the 23rd Foot, famous for his athletic powers and especially for his great walk of 1,000 miles in 1,000 hours, but also for his enormous strength and corresponding appetite. The third of these houses, being separated from the block of modern buildings—Bellevue Terrace—that follows, displays the whole length of its side running some way back, the upper storey half-timbered, with an

¹² Court Rolls of Manor of Michelham Park Gate.

¹³ "Our Parish."

outside stairway leading down to the garden. Beyond this the houses are for the most part modern, though behind Kerridge's large furniture warehouse, further along on the same side, there are several old cottages, including a wheelwright's shop. Immediately opposite this point is the printing office. Our local press has had an existence of certainly 115 years, and the time is by no means beyond the memory of many when the village of Eastbourne had to come to Hailsham town to get its printing done, "*mais nous avons changé tout cela*," and now Eastbourne has a press of its own and newspapers and a mayor and other luxuries and, giving its name to an electoral division of the county, pretends its voters never had to come to Hailsham to register their votes.

Further on we come to the Methodist Chapel and then the Police Court, built in 1861, opposite to which is the Infants' School, built in 1880, at the corner where North Street enters the High Street, facing "St. Wilfrid's," a house standing well back from the road in its own grounds, formerly a cottage attached to the mill which then stood there, but was afterwards moved down to Harebeating. Then on the left the "Grenadier" public-house, built in 1803. Amongst the papers in the church chest is a deed by which William Stevens, of Berwick, and J. Worger, of Alfriston, who are about to build a house in the field now Mr. Benjamin Shelley's, near the Barracks, on Hailsham Common, for the purpose of supplying beer for the use of the barracks, bind themselves to Mr. Isaac Clapson, gent., that Richard Wood, innkeeper, of Hailsham, shall have half a share of the business. Mr. Clapson, being churchwarden, thought, I suppose, that the parish chest would be the safest place to keep this bond in; at any rate, there it is. Next comes "Wellington Terrace," while on the right the road to Battle turns off; crossing the railway bridge, on the left is the New Road leading to the Recreation Ground, and a little further on, Leap Cross, where we meet the parish boundary, which runs to the left, past a picturesque thatched and half-timbered cottage, down Hempsted Lane, between Tilehurst Wood and Hempsted Farm,

with high hedges on either hand, till a little before Knock Hatch, where it turns to the left and crosses the fields; to the right it crosses the railway bridge and passes down the road to the Hailsham Union, a forbidding barrack-like place, surrounded by a high wall.

Returning to the Infants' School; the buildings on either side of North Street are mostly private houses of some size, of which we may mention "Hardwycke," a low and rather long house with good grounds, now in the occupation of Mr. J. B. Campion Coles, who succeeded the widow of Colonel Sinnock, of the East India Service, who built the opposite row of houses and gave them Indian names; the house was formerly a school—Weston's "Academy." At the end of the road, adjoining "Kirby Croft," is the "East Sussex Auction Mart." Now, turning sharp to the left, we pass up George Street.

The first house, on the left, is a picturesque old place, considerably enlarged by its present owner, Mr. William Strickland, J.P. It was formerly the residence of Major Van Cortlandt, an American Royalist officer, to whose memory there is a tablet in the church, a descendant of the founder of New York, who settled here after the War of Independence as barrack master. At the sale of the property of Mr. Slye, a later owner, an Eastbourne dealer bought for a few shillings a miscellaneous lot, which included a dull little picture. This he sold, as is the custom of dealers, for considerably more than he gave for the lot to a gentleman, who had it cleaned, when it proved to be a good Dutch work, for which £150 was subsequently refused. This was most probably a relic of Major Van Cortlandt. The next house, standing back amongst trees, was built some sixty years since by Mr. H. C. Sinnock, who died in 1888, the last of three generations of lawyers, the first of whom was practising in Hailsham in 1779 and earlier, as in that year¹⁴ he acted as deputy for Mr. Hy. Burtenshaw, steward of the Manor of Bowley. Facing these two houses is a paddock containing a few deer and a clock tower erected by Mr.

¹⁴ Court Rolls of Manor of Bowley.

Strickland as a memorial of the first Jubilee. By the side of this paddock a road runs to a collection of cottages near the Station, passing the Church Room, built in 1895 at a cost of £700, with a class room added in 1897 by two parishioners to commemorate the twenty-fifth year of the Rev. F. Clyde Harvey's vicarship.

Returning to George Street we pass two old houses, one of which is a barber's shop and has been for 120 years or more, for¹⁵ John Gibbs, who died about 1830, at the age of 95, held it for 57 years; and possibly it was here that lived "John Hudson of Hailsham Perukemaker one of the constables of the Hundred of Dill," who in 1746 made a distress on the goods of Richard Austin for three years' rent unpaid, seizing a variety of articles, from a warming-pan to a wood trug and from a powdering tub to a young stag, as is set forth at great length in a document in the church chest. On the opposite side is the old village smithy and then the George Hotel, an old house, but not so old as the Crown. Then, after a few more houses, we re-enter the market square.

Now, taking the road by the side of the Post Office, we pass the Vicarage on the left and two old cottages, one half-timbered, on the right and come to the edge of the hill on which the church stands, whence we obtain an extensive view of the marshes of Pevensey level with the sea beyond, the martello towers on the beach and the mass of Pevensey Castle lying between the churches of Pevensey and Westham; and more inland, rising from the green plain, wooded hills from which stand out the spire of Herstmonceux Church and the windmill, now sailless, of Windmill Hill. At this point, between the Garrett Fields and Packham's Nursery and Tea Gardens, Marshfoot Lane descends between high hedges for about a mile to Marshfoot House and Farm. The house is an old one, much rebuilt, but still retaining evidences of its age in its thick walls built of sandstone, small stone-cased windows and high roof. Tradition says it was a grange of Wilmington Priory, but it is more likely to have been

connected with either Bayham or Michelham. The pond by the side of the lane is said to have been used by the smugglers coming up from Pevensey Bay as a hiding place for their kegs of spirit. Behind the farm a path leads across the fields to a grassy lane that straggles, picturesquely unkempt, through hedges abounding with blackberries and other berries to a quaint little thatched and timbered cottage, from which a road leads past a farmhouse and some brickfields to Harebeating Mill, coming out into the Magham Down road opposite Hawthyl-land Wood. Turning up to the left we pass a few old brick cottages and the brewery, and just above the Board School, erected in 1878, emerge into the High Street, which takes us back to the square.

Leaving the market square by the road to the south, just beyond the Post Office is a low house, part of which is now used as a branch of the Lewes Bank, and then the high wall of the market. Opposite is a good eighteenth century house and a little further on the Baptist Chapel, after which a road turns down past Bellbanks, a little thatched cottage, to the common pond. Continuing down the main road we find two more old houses, one of considerable size, on the left, and then a break occupied only by fields, till we reach a collection of modern cottages round a windmill, a little beyond which are the remains of an old timbered cottage, fast falling to pieces. Then, close to a thatched house, the road turns sharply to the right and becomes a country lane and, soon turning again to the left, enters the marshes and runs through flat treeless grazing land to White Dyke Farm and on to Horseye and Rickney, both of which are just outside the parish. From Rickney the road leads through prettier scenery, marshland still, but plentifully dotted with bushes, chiefly of hawthorn, to Downash, now a large farm but formerly a manor house, and thence back to the town, passing on the way a flat stone lying in the path by the hedge, which is one of the boundary marks of Pevensey Liberty. A little before the common pond is reached two new roads are being made and small houses springing up rapidly, and in the field next to the

pond stood till this year a pretty old half-timbered cottage, but it has now been swept away. The road meets that from Bell-banks at Buttsfield Place—possibly the portion of the common set aside for archery in accordance with the law of Edward IV., which ordered that every parish should have a piece of land for the practice of archery—and proceeds past the Railway Station and a number of cottages and shops, mostly erected during the last two or three years, till it meets North Street and George Street. From this point it formerly passed between the present Drill Hall and the isolated square warehouse, once for a short while the barracks of the Salvation Army, across where the railway to Tunbridge Wells now runs; but when this line was formed the road was diverted over the present railway bridge, on the other side of which it turns to the right and passes the Recreation Ground, a field of five acres laid out in 1855, the ground of the Hailsham Lawn Tennis Club and the new football field, all on the left, and seven or eight private houses on the right. Close to an old farmhouse it ends and from here one path leads across the fields to Knock Hatch Farm and another through several fields to Tilehurst Wood—the field before the wood was, I think, the last hop garden in the parish—and by a pleasant path through the wood to Hempsted Lane.

Returning to the west side of the railway bridge, we take the road to the south; on the right is Devonshire Place and on the left, at right angles to our road, Gordon Place, both quite recent. Then, on the right, comes the factory of string and twine, the chief industry of the town and formerly, in the time of its founder, the late Mr. Burfield, of greater importance than at present—almost the only fact that the guide books can find to say of Hailsham is that this factory “has the privilege of making the ropes with which criminals are hanged at Lewes,” a source of income only slightly less precarious than the manufacture of smoked glasses through which to watch solar eclipses. Beyond the factory is a lane leading into the fields near Knock Hatch; then, after passing the King’s Head public-house, two old red-tiled

cottages, of which the nearer to the road appears unlikely to survive many more winters; then, a little further down, two others, thatched, and facing them a third, a tiny little picturesque, uncomfortable place, seeming scarce able to support the weight of its great thatched roof that comes down almost to the ground. And here a road turns off to Arlington and Michelham across the Hide, receiving on the way, at Robin Cross, Robin Post Lane that runs for two miles through the woods towards Wilmington, a most delightful walk in dry weather, but for the most part, that is to say beyond the borders of Hailsham parish, impassable in wet, being a good example of the roads of olden days that earned our county such unenviable notoriety—"Sussex full of mire and dirt."

The road now leaves the houses—Cacklebury ending at the crossways—and ascends gradually between trees, the wood on the right continuing over the crest of the hill, while the coppice on the left stops a little way below "Woodside" house. At the top of the hill, where a road leads off down to Summer Hill and to Downash, is a new house, "The Homestead," as yet hardly completed. Whatever may be said of its design, which is unconventional even to eccentricity, it certainly commands a splendid view, from Hailsham on the north, with its picturesque church tower, round over Pevensey levels to Eastbourne and the Downs above Polegate on the south. A little beyond is Nightingale Place, another large new house, and then the road descends in one long hill almost to Polegate, with hedgerows of oaks on either hand. Just before reaching the uninteresting village that has sprung up round the railway junction of Polegate, a lane leads off on the left, soon dividing into two branches, one of which goes past Otham to the road from Glenleigh to Peel House, while the other runs past Sareland, with its long red roof and heavy chimney stack and incongruous modern front of stucco, through the low-lying Saltmarsh, often flooded in winter, to Peel House. From here the road runs back towards the town, past Mulbrooks Farm and the railway gates, being connected with the Polegate road by the lane that comes down from

Summer Hill past the rope-walk and enters this road below the cemetery, which contains four acres and was opened in 1872. Opposite the cemetery is "Sandbanks" house and farm and the Quarry Pond, the only sandstone in the parish, from which the stone used in the fabric of the church is said to have been quarried. Then, on the right, comes Ersham Lodge, a good house, with large conservatories and good grounds, separated from the cemetery by Ersham Farm. On the same side follow a row of hardly-finished houses, mostly semi-detached villas of fairly good design; and behind them are two new roads on land formerly part of Knight's Nursery, where smaller houses are springing up in rows. Here the road re-enters Cacklebury and unites with the Polegate road. And here our survey may finish and in the next chapter begins the historical portion.

CHAPTER III.

THERE appear to be no remains of the pre-historic period in the parish of Hailsham, save an occasional flint implement. It is true that "the Amber stone" at Magham Down has abrogated to itself the dignity of a "Druidic" monument; but, unfortunately, this claim appears to be as unsupported by evidence as are the vague, magical properties sometimes ascribed to it, of which I can only assert that the local belief that "when the Amber stone hears the clock at Hailsham strike twelve it shifts its position" appears to be well founded.¹⁶ Nor, indeed, would one expect to find many remains of the earliest inhabitants, as previous to the Roman invasion, and indeed for some time after that, the greater part of the land must have been either swamp or forest, traversed no doubt by more or less definite tracks and with here and there a collection of rude huts in a clearing, but nothing of a permanent character, for no evidence has yet come to light of the Sussex marshes having been used by lake dwellers. The British gold coin ploughed up at Polegate in 1872 may be said to belong to the period of the Roman conquest, or slightly earlier; it is one of the many varieties of barbarous imitations of Macedonian coins, and is illustrated on page 270 of the 26th volume of the "Sussex Archæological Collections."

The Romans also have left few traces of their occupation. In a field on the east of the road at Polegate large quantities of pottery have been found during the last thirty years. Some of this appears to be Roman; other pieces are very coarse and rough, with rude indentations for ornament, and are evidently British. Nothing but pottery has been found, but it would seem as if this field had been the site of a small settlement for some little time during the Roman period, and it tends to confirm my opinion that a Roman road ran from

¹⁶ It may be as well for me to add that, owing to its great age, the stone has become "rather hard o' hearing."

Eastbourne through Ratton, where it was possibly joined by a small road from Seaford, through Hailsham and Herstmonceux, by Gardener Street and Boreham Street. This is, however, merely a theory, based on circumstantial evidence of perhaps rather an inconclusive nature. I am informed by Mr. Wm. Strickland that at the time the railway between Hailsham and Tunbridge Wells was being made a considerable quantity of pottery was found at the back of the house now occupied by Mr. Campion Coles; the pottery, however, appears to have been very fragmentary, and the few pieces I have seen might be ascribed to the Saxon period with as great probability as the Roman.

Nor have the Saxons left any record behind them, save that the name itself of Hailsham tells of its Saxon origin, meaning probably the settlement of Hella, Heile, or some such name. The spelling of the name varies considerably, as Hamelesham (in Domesday only), Alisham and Halisham, Eylesham, Heilsham, Helsham (seventeenth century), Alsom (eighteenth century) and, most commonly, Haylesham. Bearing in mind Ælla's famous sack of Anderida, which is usually now considered to be Pevensey, it is tempting to associate his name with the subject of our research; but the pitfalls of etymology are many, deep and ignominious, and scathing scorn is the lot of the unfortunate author who ventures on a romantic derivation. Possibly, however, the name may be connected with the adjective "haile," meaning safe.

With the Norman Conquest we quit the realm of shadowy conjecture and come to the comparatively firm land of documentary evidence, and in the great Domesday survey, compiled about 1085, we meet with the first reference to Hailsham. Under the possessions of the Earl of Mortain is entered: "In Pevenesel Hundred. William holds one hide and a half of the Earl at Hamelesham, and they vouch for so much. Alnod held them as ¹⁷allodium. There is land for 4 ploughs. There

¹⁷ Allodium = an hereditary estate.

are 4 ¹⁸ bordars with one ox, and 2 salterns of 7 shillings. In the time of King Edward they were worth 110 shillings now 20 shillings. In this manor the Earl has retained 11 salterns which are worth 24 shillings and 6 pence."

That Hamelesham is intended for Hailsham there can, I think, be no doubt, though Mr. Hussey in his "Churches of Kent and Sussex" wishes to identify Hamelesham with Westham, and suggests Haslesse, in Essesswelle Hundred, for Hailsham, a gratuitous exercise of his imagination apparently unsupported by any evidence. Apart from the probability that Westham¹⁹ was not in existence at this time, the difference between Haslesse and Hailsham is extreme, while Hamelesham is certainly not more unlike the present name than many well-authenticated names in Domesday. Also the fact of a portion of the parish being in the Liberty of Pevensey corresponds with its entry under Pevensey Hundred, and further, the former owner, Alnod, had also held the adjacent manor of Harebeating. This Alnod had been a man of considerable importance in the time of Edward the Confessor. In two instances he is mentioned as Cild Alnod, a prefix more or less equivalent to esquire and familiar to all who read Byron in the title of one of his best known poems, "Child Harold's Pilgrimage." Besides Hailsham and Harebeating, we find that he owned property in Wartling, a manor in Hailesaltede Hundred (near Netherfield and Whatlington), Alciston Manor and lands in Totenore Hundred at Charleston, Wilmington and Ovingdene, and the manor of Shelves-trode in East Grinstead, and also land at Bridham and Barnham in West Sussex—unless this was another Alnod. Who William, the Norman tenant, may have been it is impossible to say.

A noteworthy point about this entry is the number and value of the salt pans; of these there were 13 and they

¹⁸ Bordarii = cottagers.

¹⁹ Westham was probably built in consequence of a charter granted 9th John to the Barons of Pevensey to build a town between Pevensey and Langney (see Horsfield).

were worth over 30s., roughly equivalent to as many pounds of modern money. There are 285 of these salt pans mentioned in the survey, of which the average value was 2s. 5½d., some being worth as much as 5s. each. The last worked in Sussex were those at ²⁰Apuldrum, near Chichester, which were still in use in 1815.

We will now trace as far as possible the history of the manor. It appears to have passed with the Barony of Pevensey when that noble estate was granted by Henry I. to Gilbert de Aquila on its escheating to the Crown by the Earl of Mortaine's rebellion. In Henry II.'s time, however, Burrell states that ²¹Sir Richard Covert, of Bradbridge, was Lord of the Manor of Haylesham. This may have been during the time that the Barony or Honor of Aquila, as it was called from its connection with the family of Aquila, was in the King's hands before he regranted it to Richard de Aquila, as it was in the hands of Gilbert III. de Aquila in 1228, at which date he ²²granted the advowson of Heilsham Church to Michelham Priory; his lands were forfeited to the Crown in 1235. In 1251 the manor was certainly in the possession of Peter of Savoy, who held the Honor of the Egle at that time, for in that year he obtained a ²³charter for a market to be held in his manor of Heylesham. In the ²⁴Assize Roll for 1263 is recorded the following case: Peter of Savoy, by Wyghthard de Karum, his steward, impleads Nicholas de Horesy that he with other men of the vill of Horesy on the eve of the Nativity of the Virgin came to Yverikesham, in the parish of Aylesham, to a certain fee held of the said Peter in villenage and threw down a grange and carried off goods to the value of 20 marcs, by which he has suffered loss to the amount of £20. Nicholas claims that the men of the Liberty of the Cinque Ports are exempt from all jurisdiction except the ²⁵Schipweye, but is unable to bring documentary proof, and failing to appear on the appointed day the sheriff is ordered to distrain him. In the same Roll is another

²⁰ "S.A.C.," Vol. V.

²¹ Add. MSS., 5,681.

²² Pat., 13th Henry III.

²³ Charter Roll, 36 Henry III., m. 7.

²⁴ Assize Roll, 912.

²⁵ The Court of the Cinque Ports.

suit: Peter of Savoy, by Wychard de Karum, who prosecutes for the Crown, claims against Robert le Hoppere and Matilda his wife 4 messuages and 14 acres of land in Aylsham, and against Aluered le Rug 2 acres there, and against William le Macun $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres; which should be in the King's hands as his escheats of the lands of Normans: Robert, son of John de Iverikesham, is their warrantor: judgment, that the King have the land and that the defendants recover lands of the same value against Robert, son of John, who says that he has no freehold, what he has he holds in villenage. As the fee of Iverikesham is said in the first of these records to be held in villenage this Robert was probably the tenant. In 1278 a nephew of his, ²⁶ John, the son of Remigius, claims against Alianora, Queen of England, a messuage and 80 acres of land in Heylisham, of which John de Iverykesham, his grandfather, was seised in demesne. This fee I believe to be identical with Yersham, or Ersham, the alternative title by which, as we shall see, the manor of Hailsham was afterwards called. The two names do not at first sight appear much alike, but if pronounced with the broad "burring" Sussex accent it will be seen that the change from Iverikesham to Ersham is really a slight one.

In "Thorpe's Calendar of the Battle Abbey Charters" is given a Deed of Release, dated 1280, by Adam Launde, of Estburn, to Robert, son and heir of Peter de Cranebroke, Lord of the Lands of Heilesham, of land, vesture of corn, &c., in Heylesham; witnessed by John Franklyn and John le Pelet' (=the skinner), of Burne. But this title, Lord of the Lands of Hailsham, is probably not equivalent to Lord of the Manor, whatever it may mean. The next dated entry bearing on this subject is the ²⁷Return of the Lords of Townships made in 1316, in which the hundred of Thille is stated to be in the hands of Margaret Queen of England and John Marmyon is given as Lord of the vill of Haylesham.

²⁶ Assize Roll, 914.

²⁷ Palgrave's "Parliamentary Writs."

How far the vill of Hailsham corresponded with the manor is hard to say, but the lands held by John Marmion, of his manor of Berwick, afterwards formed a considerable item in the manor of Hailsham, as will be seen. Amongst the Sussex Charters preserved in the Bodleian Library is the following interesting document:²⁸

I, William Marmyun have granted and quit-claimed to my men of Haylesham the charter which they have of Robert Marmyun my father in these words:—These are the services and customs of my men of Haylesham which should be rendered to their Lord Robert Marmyun at Berewik, namely; on the feast of St Martin one measure of salt, and he who brings it shall have his dinner given him; and at Christmas nine hens and a cock, and the bearer shall have his dinner; and at Easter one hundred eggs, and the bearer shall have his dinner; and in summer four strong men to mow the Lord's meadows for one day, and on that day the mowers shall have two meals; and in autumn four men or women to reap the Lord's crops for one day, and on that day the reapers shall have two meals: also they shall be answerable *ad Hecchum de Pevensell* to the amount due for one knight's fee: also when Sir Robert Marmyun makes his eldest son a knight the said tenants shall give Sir Robert 20^s, and at the marriage of his eldest daughter 20^s, and for ransom of his body during a national war 20^s: and Sir Robert Marmyun quit-claims to the said tenants all other exactions, saving such service as is due to the King for one knight's fee; and they shall attend the Halimote of Berewyk by four tenants whenever summoned: and Sir Robert and his heirs shall pay yearly to the said tenants four shillings from the land of Pykehay to discharge the rent due to Sir Robert Agwillon and his successors: and in return for this sealed grant the said tenants have given to Sir Robert Marmyun one hundred shillings sterling; witnessed by, Master Adam, Will. de Burghton, Richard de Helingelehe, Randolph de Brade, Michael de Kelle, Walter de Aurringgeton, Robert de Manekesey, Remigius de Bosco, Gervase White (Albo), Simon le Burg', Alan Cropp, Simon de Hemstede and others. And because my said men of Haylesham of their own free will have acknowledged to me (*i.e.*, William) that after the death of any of them the heir is bound to pay to me Relief to the same amount as he pays for rent; therefore I will and grant that all my men of Haylesham and their heirs after payment of Relief shall have free entry into their lands, as by right they should; and that they shall be free from Heriot henceforth: Saving however to myself the rent and services of the land of Robert of Pykehey and of the land of Robert le Mus of Haylesham. Moreover I have quit-claimed to them all that rent of salt, fowl, and eggs, and the reaping and mowing which they used to perform, for 100^s paid to me and a yearly rent of 4^s 8^d to be paid at Berwik at four terms of the year with 100^s 18^d rent of assize due to me by custom: and whoever brings the rent shall have his dinner in the court of Berewick when he has

²⁸ Sussex Charters, 167.

brought the rent there. And that this grant may be valid I have affixed my seal to this my writing. Witness, Sir William Marmyun the Lord's Knight, Sir William Maufe, William de la Dune, Richard de Norwood the Lord's clerk, William de Bestenover, Master Peter de Haylesham, Simon de Hellingeleghe, Richard le Brade, Walter de Bosco, Thomas Faucheham, Richard de Hydenhye, Nicholas de Horsye, and many others.

There is no date to this charter, but it must have been executed before 1298, in which year William Marmion died; while the charter of Robert appears from the names of the witnesses to be about 1270 at latest. This latter is of considerable interest for the details given of the services due from the tenants, a good example of the feudal tenures which, as in this case, were frequently at a later date commuted for a money payment. Not only are articles of food to be provided and work to be done on the land, but a provision is made by the careful knight for times of extraordinary expense, the festivities in connection with the knighting of his son, the dower of his daughter, and his own ransom if captured during a war, but in this last case only apparently if the war is a national one (*guerram regni*), which would not include any private expedition either as free-lance, crusader, or under a foreign leader. The arrangement by which food is to be provided for those performing the various services was probably made because of the distance, some six miles, of the court of Berwick from Hailsham. What the "Hecchum" of Pevensey was is not known; the term appears again, as "heccagium," in the services of the manor of Otham; it hardly seems likely to be in any way connected with a special kind of fishing net, which is the derivation given by Ducange. The freedom from heriot will be found noted in the seventeenth century rental given below.

The first of the family of Marmion²⁹ in England was Robert, who in the time of William I. settled in Warwickshire; his grandson of the same name granted the lordship of Berwick to his son Robert above mentioned in 1227. William was succeeded by John, possibly his nephew, who in 20 Edward I. obtained a charter of free-warren

²⁹ Dugdale's Baronage.

in Berewick and Pikehay (in Hellingly). John died in 1313 and was found seised of the manor of Berewik, of which an extent is given in the ³⁰inquisition held at Hailsham, although no mention is made of Hailsham there is an entry of "rent of assize of freeholders, 100^s per annum received at four terms of the year," which probably refers thereto. John, his son, aged 30 at this date, succeeded him, and his daughter Amice married John Grey of Rotherfield (Oxfordshire), who died in 33 Edward III. seised in her right of the manor of Berwyk held of Queen Philippa as of the Honor of Aquila. Their granddaughter Elizabeth married Sir Henry FitzHugh, whose son Sir William died in 1452 seised of that manor, and his granddaughter married Sir John Fiennes, and it will be seen that it is in the hands of his descendant Gregory Lord Dacre that the manor of Hailsham, under that name, first occurs. Philadelphia, daughter of Henry Lord Dacre, married Sir Thomas Parker of Ratton, who was second cousin to Sir John Gage, who subsequently obtained the manor by purchase. So much for indirect evidence of the descent of the manor.

In ³¹1581 there is a record of the grant of several manors, including that of Hailesham, to Gregory Lord Dacre of Herstmonceux; and in the following year the ³²reversion of these same manors is given to William Lord Burghley and Robert Earl of Leicester. At his death in 1594 ³³Lord Dacre was found seised of the manor, but at the end of the survey of the manor of Hailsham, in Lord Gage's manor book of 1625, is an entry to the effect that: "This manor by Indenture of Bargain and Sale dated 28th Oct. 25th Elizabeth was sold by John Rootes esq. to John Gage esq., and the lands particularly mentioned;" also, "A Fine levied thereupon Michaelmas 25th Elizabeth between John Gage esq. plaintiff and John Roots and Alice his wife deforciant of the manor, &c., 100 acres of land 40 acres of meadow and 140 acres of pasture and 60 acres of Freshmarsh in

³⁰ Inq. p.m. 16 Edward II., 40.

³¹ Pat., 23 Eliz., p. 7 [*Cal.*].

³² Pat., 24 Eliz., p. 13 [*Cal.*].

³³ Add. MSS., 5,681.

Hailsham." Apparently, therefore, Rootes and Gage held the manor of Lord Dacre as tenant-in-chief. It continued in the hands of the Gages till 1640, but is stated by Burrell to have been "held of the manor of Jevington in socage by fealty"⁸³ in 1634, being valued at that time at £11; the manor of Jevington was then in the hands of the Parkers, of Ratton. In 1625 surveys were made of all Sir John Gage's manors, including that of Hailsham, of which I give a transcript. The names in brackets are those of later tenants inserted after the survey was drawn up. At the end are the two entries referred to above and a third to the effect that, by an Indenture of 5th May, 17th Jas. I., Elias Swayne granted to Sir John Gage, Bart. (then esquire), a little close some time Edward Twitts, containing $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres, in Hailsham, within a close of Sir John Gage's, called Collards.

ERSHAMS ALIAS HAILSHAM

Lands holden of divers Lords which pay heriot and rent

Joyes house and one crofte holden of the manor of Wilington and payeth yearly rent	6 ^d
Saltmarsh holdeth of the same mannor and paieth yearly	6 ^s 4 ^d
Averies holdeth of the same manor and paieth yearly....	5 ^s 0
Crowchers holdeth of the mannor of Sharnefeld and paieth yearly	5 ^s 0
Joyes Marsh is holden of the manor of Lewens and paieth yearly	4 ^d
Fackham Marsh, 34 acres, holdeth of the mannor of Downeash and paieth yearly.....	6 ^s 2 ^d
Perry Crofts, 2 acres, holdeth of the same manor and paieth yearly	6 ^d
Jurdens are holden of Sir Tho ^s Pelham as of his mannor of ⁸⁴ and paieth yearly	13 ^d
Woovers holdeth of the same mannor and paieth yearly ..	6 ^d

These parcells following are holden of the manor of Berwick and paie noe herietts

Longe Ershams paieth yearly to Berwick	6 ^d
The Hale and Mildowne paieth to the same yearly	16 ^d
Hastingland paieth to the same yearly	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ^d
Fackham land and the Stocks paie to the same yearly....	5 ^s 6 ^d

⁸⁴ The name of the manor is left blank in the original.

ERSHAME alias Hailsham

John Greene [by Indent. 20 Mar. 17 ^o Jas for 21 years from Michmas. past] for Joyes Howse barne stable close adjoyning cont' 2½ acres and for a close called Groveland and an acre and a rood late Edward Twitts purchased of Elias Swane the whole close containyng 4 acres 4 roods..	} 20 th
for a Close called Collards adjoyning to Mr. Hudsons Orchard cont' 3 acres 1 rood ..	
for 4 closes part of Jurdens cont' 14 acres..	
(William Royden) for a little close called Cotton Rowe containyng 3 acres	
for 2 closes called Perrycrofts and Maunders 3 acres	
for Averies 8 acres	
William (Thomas) Bodle for Crowehers cont' 24 acres by Ind ^t 16 March 17 Jas for 21 years from Mich. past. per ann...	16 th 13 ^s 4 ^d
Nicholas Bodle for pte of Ershams for Cockshottes closes for pte of Ershams for Mildowne 2 closes by estim' 6 acres for a cottage and garden adjoyning to Mildowne for acres of Ershams viz. Long Ershams	
John Bodle [per indent' 20 Sept. 17 ^o Ja ^s for 21 years] for one close of Jurdens cont' 9 acres	} 26 th
for 3 closes called Woovers cont' by estimacon 7 acres	
for 8 acres of mersh called Saltmersh	
for certain closes called Fackham land 23 acres	
for a close called the Stockes 7 acres.....	
Elias Swane for the Cowbrooks cont' 10 acres	} 35 th 15 ^s
for the Hemp plott 12 acres	
for the Hooks at the gate 6 acres	
for the Chawland 7 acres.....	
for the next peece to that 8 acres	
for the Hogbrookes 6 acres	
for a little peece there 3 acres	
for Hastingland 6 acres	
for a peece of Upland called the Hale 6 acres	
ERSHAMS FREEHOLDERS	
Richard Kenchley for certaine land called Trendle Grove [besides certain services 1 herr' and Reliefe] yearly rent..	12 ^d
For certain lands called Dedlands sometime Lewens and after Woodgates and after Abraham Edwards beside certain services and one herr'.....	2 ^s
For lands called Upton Barns late Thomas Snowes	4 ^d

John Bodle son of Nicholas Bodle for a messuage in Haylesham late Gunns and sometime Willards besides certain services and one herr'	6 ^d
Bodle for 2 crofts lying by the heathe neere Ershams besides certain services and 1 herr'	6 ^d
For lands late John Brookes and before Simon Affenell besides certain services and 1 herr'	7½ ^d
Elias Onstie for certain lands called Ershams lying next to the Lords lands of that name besides certain services and 1 herr'	4 ^d
Colborne son of Colborne for lands at the greene at Hanckham Ash besides certain services and 1 herr'	6 ^d
Sara Bodle widdowe of Thomas Bodle the younger for a tenemt. and crofte at the Comon of Halsham besides certain services and 1 herr'	8½ ^d
Nathaniell Milles for 16 acres of land at White Dike late Robert Akers and sometime Proffitts besides certain services and 1 herr'	12 ^d
Richard Baker in the right of his wife late wife of Arnold Harborrowe for Harbaken land besides certain services and 1 herr'	12 ^d
For oldhowse land neere Meghams besides certain services and 1 herr'	6 ^d

In the Royalist Composition Papers, that is to say the collection of documents in connection with the estates of the Royalists forfeited to the Commonwealth, preserved in the Record Office is a paper: ⁸⁵Concerning the petition of John Gage, an infant under 14 years, by his guardian, Walter Ewrenden, gent., *re* certain lands settled on him by Sir Thomas Gage, his late father, and now sequestrated for the recusancy of the said Sir Thomas. Amongst a quantity of matter not bearing on our subject are two references that concern the manor. Of these the first is: An Indenture of March, 1640, by which Sir Thomas Gage, of Firle, Edward Guldeford, Esq., John Carrill, Esq., John Thetcher, Esq., and Thomas Roper, Esq., sold to Thomas Lethbridg and Richard Lyson all that the manor of Earsham, *alias* Hailsham, and the messuage tenements, &c., called Joice House, Fockham Marsh, Hoggbrook, Earshams, Croches, Croker Row, Jordens, Joieslands, Grovelands, Collards,

⁸⁵ Royalist Composition Papers. Series I., Vol. 27.

Henhards, Milldown, Maunders Croft, the Haile and Hastings lands in Hailsham, then in the possession of Nicholas Bodle, Edward Bodle, Richard Kensley and Edward Cowsley, and a little close some time Edward Levit's, containing an acre and a half, within a close of Sir T. Gage, called Collards; to the intent that a good Recovery might be suffered. The second indenture is of the same date and is practically part of the same deed: Whereas Sir John (*sic*) Gage, deceased, had intended to sell the said premises to pay his debts—of which £2,200 are yet unpaid—and to portion his children and Sir Thomas hath issue Frances, daughter of Dame Mary Gage, who is wholly unprovided for, and he intended that the manor of Earsham, *alias* Hailsham, should be sold for payment of the said debts and portions, the residue to be disposed of for raising £2,000 for the said Frances Gage. It was agreed that before the end of Michaelmas term next a Recovery of the premises should be suffered and Earsham to be sold. Accordingly in the Easter term 1641 Recoveries were made; and the manor was sold, presumably to Sir Thomas Dyke, of Horeham, as Burrell³⁶ states that he “sold the manor to — Sawbridge Esq. who sold it to Garland Esq. who alienated it to — Medley, Esq.” Unfortunately no dates or authorities are given for these details, nor for his further statements that “in 1763 and 1788 Geo. Medley Esq. was proprietor” and that in 1788 “Launcelot Harrison Esq. gives a deputation for the manor of Hailsham.” G. Medley may have owned the estate, but from deeds at present in the hands of Messrs. Hunt, Currey and Nicholson, of Lewes, it appears that the manor of Ersham belonged in 1735 to Thomas Willard, who left it in 1750 to his nephew Nicholas, and that it remained in the Willard family till 1810, when it was alienated to Jacob Wood and Robert Robins, who in the same year sold it to James, father of the late James Ingram.

This scanty and imperfect record is all that I have found about the manor; whether that is my fault or my

³⁶ Add. MSS., 5,681.

misfortune I leave to others to decide, and turn to the history of the market, as being connected with the manor at least at the start. In 1252 Henry III. gave the following ⁸⁷ charter: "We have granted and by this our charter have confirmed to our dear and faithful Peter of Savoy that he and his heirs in perpetuity may have a market in his manor of Heylesham every week on Wednesday with all liberties and customs pertaining to such a market, so it be not to the detriment of neighbouring markets; witnessed by Galfrid de Lezignan our brother, and others; given by our hand at Merleberge 22^o July." When the long reign of Henry III. came to an end in 1272 the country was in a disgraceful state of confusion and lawlessness, might was the only right and an official position was merely an opportunity for oppression and plunder,—some instances will be given later in the general history of the parish—so that one of the first acts of Edward I. on his accession was to send out commissioners throughout the country to enquire into infringements of the King's prerogatives, abuse of power and corrupt and illegal acts of the nobles and officials. These enquiries were held in every Hundred and the returns enrolled in 1274 on the "Hundred Rolls," and amongst them the return for the Hundred of Thille, in which ⁸⁸ the jurors state: "That Peter of Savoy 15 years ago founded a market in the town of Heylham in the Rape of Pevenes on Wednesdays and caused toll to be taken on the same market day; now the Queen's stewards [the hundred of Dill was at this time in the Queen's hands as part of the Honor of Aquila] unlawfully take toll there on every day of the week to the great oppression of the country; they do not know by what authority this is done." A similar complaint is made in 1278 before the Justices in Eyre, ⁸⁹ that Walter de Endelene-wick, Bailiff of the Queen, has levied stallage in the market of Haylesham from diverse men who should not pay any custom, for which he is fined.

⁸⁷ Chart., 36 Henry III., m. 7.

⁸⁸ "Rotuli Hundredorum."

⁸⁹ Assize Roll, 921.

Having seen these two examples of illegal exactions in connection with the market, it will be as well to examine the customs and payments that were really due. These were payable towards the "Castle Ward Rents of the bailiwick of Endlenwyke," which were sums devoted to the garrison expenses of Pevensey Castle and collected from an extensive district in the Honor of Aquila that took its name from the manor of Endlenwyke, near Ripe. It is probable that originally the bailiff attended at each market and collected tolls and certain sums for stallage from all who were not exempt. The entry on the Assize Roll given above points to this custom; but after a while a fixed payment or composition was settled, though the amount varied at different periods. In the ⁴⁰account of Will Lewyne, bailiff of the Honor of Aquila, for 4th and 5th Ric. II., is entered: 18s. 3d. received for stallage of the merchants of Haylesham and for the small tolls of the bailiwick; for the Portmoot of Haylesham nothing this year, for weighing of bread nothing and for heriots nothing. This payment for stallage remains the same till the 15th Ric. II., but in ⁴¹6th Edw. IV. it is only 17s. 8d. and ⁴²1510 is 16s. 8d. No payments are recorded for either heriots or portmoot; this latter is lucidly defined by Martin as "a court which is held in towns," while according to Ducange it is a court in connection with a port, and probably in this case only affected the part of Hailsham within the Liberty of the port of Pevenseye. There are several entries with regard to the "weighing of bread," the bailiff having in his charge the standard weights; ⁴⁰in 9th and 10th Ric. II.—for weighing of bread nothing owing to loss of the measures—after which is a note, "this must be discussed with the Council." But the discussion does not seem to have had any immediate effect, as the same entry occurs three years later, followed by the statement that in the following year a new set of measures and weights were bought, as appears by the

⁴⁰ Original Ministers' Accounts, Bundle 441.

⁴¹ Original Ministers' Accounts, Bundle, 1,028, No. 6.

⁴² Add. MSS., 6,351. Copy of Book of Tenures of Manor of Enlewyks, 2 Hy. VIII.

Receiver's account, and the measures were handed over to the bailiff *with an inventory of them* (?) [*parcellate per indentur*']. At this time, from 8th to 14th Richard II., Margaret Lewyn, relict of William, was bailiff, her deputies being first John her son, and then Thomas Endeleywyk, who succeeds her as bailiff in the 15th Ric. II. So with a new bailiff and a new set of weights we expect to find a change, but: For weighing and measuring of bread made with the set of weights newly bought, as given in the Receiver's account, nothing, because, as is stated, the said weights are still in the hands of the bailiff of the Liberty. Which means, I suppose, that the head bailiff has not given them to the bailiff of Endlenwyk, whose duty it was to use them. And here our accounts for Richard II.'s reign come to an end. There is, however, an account for ⁴¹6th Edward IV., and here we find that those weights are still going wrong, although another new set have been bought in the interval: For weighing and measure of bread by the new ⁴³Troy weights bought 4th Henry IV., nothing, because those weights were taken away by the King's minister in the time of Sir John Pecham; so let them be demanded of the executors of the said John Pecham. Whether the weights were recovered and made use of, or whether the bread remained unweighed does not appear. There is one other entry in these accounts which may be given here, though not actually connected with the market, it occurs for the first time in the 5th and 6th Ric. II., the accounts for the previous year being missing: 6d. for new rent of John Jamette (or Jenette) for a place to build a shop in the market place of Haylesham, this being the second year (of payment). This payment continues yearly and occurs in 1510: John Janett, for a plot of ground and a shop in the market place of Haylesham, 6d. As this covers a period of 130 years, it is evident that the various holders of the shop paid in the name of the original builder.

⁴³ Troy weight is usually held to take its name from Troy-Novant, the Monkish name of London. Other derivations are: From *Trois*, the weights being multiples of three; *de Roy*=royal weight; and Troyes, a town in France.

The market appears to have died out some time in the seventeenth or eighteenth century, the latest notice of it being in Norden's map, 1639, where Hailsham is marked as a market town. It was revived on December 15th, 1786, and by the middle of the nineteenth century had become the largest cattle market in the county, to which drovers came from all parts of England and even Wales, but, though it is still of importance, times have altered and the Welsh tongue is no longer commonly heard here. In those days the market was held in the streets, the Square and the High Street being packed with cattle, making the footpath anything but a pleasant promenade for the nervous. Now the market is held on alternate Wednesdays in a large enclosure below the Post Office, under the management of a company formed in 1871 under an "Act for dissolving the Hailsham Market Company, Limited, and re-incorporating the proprietors therein for continuing and holding a Cattle Market at Hailsham."

CHAPTER IV.

RETURNING to the general history of the parish we find that, as in the case of the manor, from the Domesday survey to the end of Henry III.'s reign is a blank, the only references being grants of land in Hailsham to various religious communities, which will be dealt with later. An entry on the ⁴⁴Close Roll for 1215 of a mandate to the Sheriff of Sussex to give to Osbert Giffard the land that belonged to Thomas de Arden' in Hilesam and Preston, gives the names of two early landowners; that of Giffard is found in the neighbourhood at a later date, another Osbert being one of the jurors on the inquisition held at Berwick after the death of John Marmion in 1292.

The troublous times of John and the early part of Henry's reign passed without leaving any traces behind them, though from the proximity of the great Castle of Pevensey the parish can hardly have rested unmoved at the time. The ⁴⁵roll of the Sussex Assize held in 1263 is the first document to give us an insight into the life of the inhabitants of Hailsham, necessarily an unfavourable view, being concerned only with their crimes. The jurors of the Hundred of Thille, by the mouth of Gerard de Hamden their foreman, present that: "Benedict the Jew dwelling at Heylesham is a clipper of coin; and Capmus and Simon, Jews, who are clippers of coin and receivers of stolen property, have gone away under suspicion; so let them be outlawed; their property is unknown as they are travellers." The distinction between residents and travellers was an important one, the Hundred being responsible, and therefore amerceable, for the misdeeds of the former. The offence of clipping coin was one of the commonest charges against the Jews; Speed, writing of Henry III., says: "he wisely wound himselve out of many a Merchants debt, whereto he wrung great helpes from the Jewes (as the ordinary

⁴⁴ Rot. Claus., 17^o John, m. 11 [*Cal.*].

⁴⁵ Assize Roll, 912.

clippers and defacers of his Coyne).” And Fabyan, in his Chronicle, says: “In this vii. yere [of Edward I.] the Kyng held his Parlyament at London, whiche was chiefly sette for the reformacon of the Kynges coygne which was clypped in suche wyse that it was therby wonderfully mynysshed and enpayred. In the season of this parlyament many of the Jewes of London and of other places were taken and put in holde for money clyppynge.” Matthew of Westminster ⁴⁶ says that in November, 1278, “all the Jews in England were seized on one day and imprisoned in London for clipping the King’s coin, and many Christians were accused by the Jews as accomplices. . . . And of Jews of both sexes were hung at London 280, and in other towns a great number. And the King obtained an enormous sum for the ransoming of Christians. Some however of the Christians also were hung.” The actual proportion of Christians to Jews is given by Fabyan “ccclxxx and xvii persones, of the whiche was but iii Englysshemen, and all the other were Jewes and Jewes borne, albeit that many of theym were borne in Englande, and therfore of some wryters they be named Englysshe Jewes, were put in execucion.” Read in connection with the above, the following entry on the ⁴⁷Assize Roll for 7th Edward I. reads significantly: “The sheriff accounts for 24^s from the goods of Vinys the Jew of Haylesham, and 12^s from the goods of a certain Jew.” Twelve years later the Commons granted King Edward a subsidy of a fifteenth that the Jews might be banished from England; as he was thus parting with what had always been a valuable source of income in the past the King took the precaution of confiscating all their property, leaving them only sufficient to pay their way out of the country.

To return to our roll of 1263: “Gilbert son of Gilbert Godseb while bathing in the pond of Haylesham was drowned; and Salomon son of John Russel who first found him is not suspected, but did not come to the inquest, so is in mercy.” Godseb was doubtless a nick-

⁴⁶ Flores Historiarum.

⁴⁷ Assize Roll, 921.

name, being our word "gossip" used in the sense of a boon companion, and the pond was the Common Pond. Salomon was no doubt the son of "Alice late the wife of John Russel who impleaded Robert le Mous that he with John Rannet and Alured de Thille, in the 43rd year of the King's reign, seized her property to the value of 30^s and imprisoned her in Pevensey Castle for a month to her detriment of 100^s. And Robert says that a certain Cristiana de Ivehurst lodged in the house of the said Alice at Haylesham, and on the next day when she wished to leave demanded of her a certain bundle in which were cloths and other things, and Alice refused to give it up. Afterwards Cristiana came to Robert Mus and Alured de Thille and they went to the house and found Alice in possession of the bundle, and arrested her and took her to Pevensey. And the jurors of the hundreds of Shepelake Welendon and Burn say that this is so: therefore she is committed to gaol for false accusation." This Robert "the mouse," apparently one of the constables of the hundred, was also juror at this assize; we have already had his name in William Marmion's charter, and another Robert le Mous appears as juror in the Nonae survey 1341, and William le Mus was juror for Thylle in 1278.

Ten years pass; momentous years in the nation's history. In 1264 was the Battle of Lewes, and the villagers of Hailsham must have looked on King Henry's army marching riotously from Battle Abbey, whose hospitality they had repaid with pillage, to Lewes, and three days later on the Earl Warrenne, William de Valence, Guy de Lusignan, Hugh le Bigot and other royalist leaders flying in rout to Pevensey Castle, to take ship there for France. And next year saw the long and unsuccessful siege of Pevensey, which was only raised by Simon de Montfort, the younger, when summoned to his father's aid and, as events proved, to defeat at Kenilworth. Then a few more years and the sceptre passes from the hands of the weak incapable Henry to his knightly son. As we have already seen when following the history of the market, one of the first acts of

Edward on his accession to the throne was to institute the enquiry the results of which was entered on the Hundred Rolls, forming a mass of evidence of the enormous extent of official corruption that then existed; hardly a hundred but had wrongs to complain of, arbitrary acts of oppression, or at least some miscarriage of justice. The Hundred of Thille make several presentments, chiefly against Richard de Pevenes, steward of the Honor of Aquila, against whom complaints are made by many other hundreds.

⁴⁸ “ They say that this hundred was wont to give 10^s yearly to the end that no man should be hindered [in pleading] nor put in default [for absence]. Now Richard de Pevensey, steward of the Queen, takes 60^s and notwithstanding amerces it by means of needy men and mendicants who are not of the neighbourhood, on a summons for default, although they are faithful lieges [*i.e.*, he charges their absence as a default although they have fulfilled their obligation by being enrolled in the tithing which has already compounded for their attendance] and the tithing is amerced because it has not such persons at the view, and the amercement is taxed according to his will by making fine and paying an award ” [*i.e.*, besides illegally putting them in mercy he does not leave the assessment, as he ought, to the affeerors appointed by the jurors, but compels them to come to terms with himself and pay his award]. Also they state that “ in the first year of King Edward, Matthew de Hastings being then sheriff, Nicholas de Althorne [*? an ancestor of the Alchorne family*] was indicted in the sheriff’s court on a charge of stealing pack-horses and other animals. The same Nicholas made an arrangement with Matthew de Hastings for a certain sum that he should not be arrested, and he is still in the neighbourhood under suspicion but not attached.”

There are also several complaints against Richard de Pevensey for false imprisonment. “ Robert Tedbrith

⁴⁸ “ Rotuli Hundredorum.” I am indebted to the Rev. W. Hudson for the translation and explanation of the first portion of this paragraph, which is rather puzzling.

was imprisoned in the Castle of Pevensey for no crime, and Richard the Queen's steward took from him 2 mares that he should admit him to bail till the coming of the Justices. The same Richard imprisoned Robert de Grava for no crime and without accusation and took from him 5^s and let him go; and in the same way he took one marc from Roger Fullere. The same Richard imprisoned in the said Castle Simon the merchant and took from him a cask of wine worth 40^s and let him go." This last victim appears as juror in 1287, and in 1278 ⁴⁹ Simon the merchant of Haylesham is fined for selling cloths of false measure, and also 12 casks of wine.

Amongst the presentments for the Hundred of Dill in 1278 is one to the effect that Hawys le Souter (= the cobbler) having been convicted of her husband's murder had been burnt, that being the terrible punishment then inflicted for that crime.

A case of some interest is given in the Assize Roll for 1306:

⁵⁰ William de Norberton complains against Thomas de Sprenham and Philip le Soutere of Eylesham that they with Richard Crill chaplain of Littlington and Thomas le Somenour of Wyngeton, in the 32nd year of the king's reign, at Helesham seized and detained the said William, then bedell of the king, coming to the said town in discharge of his duty, and took from him by compulsion sixpence and assaulted him. And the Jury state that, when William who was then deputy of the king's bailiff came to Heylesham to obtain the king's money the said Thomas, Philip, and Richard Crul and others were sitting in a certain tavern of the same town drinking, and seeing the bedell coming towards the door of the tavern they asked him to come in, which he did; and William, the bedell, would not drink with them as he said that he could not wait there to the delay of the business on which he had come; and it had been arranged amongst them that whoever drank least should pay the whole score, and this payment they wanted to get from the same William who absolutely refused to pay them anything at all; wherefore Thomas and the others by force and against the will of the said William took from his purse fivepence, and also beat him: for which the jury award him two mares damages. And as it seemed to the court that considering the enormity of the offence the jury had not awarded the bedell sufficient compensation, the Justices at their discretion awarded him one marc additional damages. Thomas de Sprenham and Philip le Suter of Aylesham each fined 20^s.

⁴⁹ Assize Roll, 921.

⁵⁰ Assize Roll, 934.

One is sometimes apt to think that hard drinking is a comparatively modern tendency. This story, however, shows it flourishing seven centuries back, and it throws an unpleasant light on the clergy of the day that a chaplain should be found taking part in a drinking match. The gravity of the offence which caused the judges to award such heavy damages—equivalent to about £30 of modern money—probably lay in the fact that William was the king's representative rather than in the actual assault. If the sub-bailiff was occasionally unfortunate, his superior officer was certainly no better off, and it seems that at times a bailiff's life was decidedly "not a happy one." Take for instance the case of Philip de Berewyk, who was bailiff of Hailsham in 1352, in which year special Assizes were held at Haylesham, East Grinstead and Pevensey to try cases connected with the Honor of Aquila.

⁵¹ "Philip de Berewyk impleads John de Bokholt that he came with armed force to Haillesham and demanded $\frac{1}{2}$ marc from him in the name of Philip's sister, when she did not owe anything to the said John, and threatened him of his life, and for fear of his threats Philip fled and for 40 days did not dare to remain in the Hundred, for which he claims 13^s 4^d damages, and obtains: John being fined 40^d." The sister here referred to is probably Roesia de Berewyk, who accuses John de Bokholte of having taken her, trampled upon her and maltreated her; he, however, is acquitted. Philip also complains that the same John "came into his close, killed his dog and threatened him of life and limb: so that Philip who was bailiff of the town of Ayllesham, elected by the whole hundred and by the steward of the Lady Queen in those parts, dare not and can not for fear and terror levy the rent due to the Lord King from various tenants in the said town pertaining to his office, and indeed the rent is a whole year in arrear through the unjust action of the said John:" damages obtained and John fined 40d. In a third accusation, however, that John had stolen 100-lbs.

⁵¹ Assize Roll, 941.

of candles worth 13s., Philip is put in mercy for false accusation. Philip also obtains 20s. damages against Richard le Tanner (or Taverner), who came into the house of Mabel Bokholte in Ayllesham and assaulted Philip and beat him; here again we have one of the family of Bokholte concerned. An action against William de Miggeham, however, for imprisoning him for three days in Richard Hurst's house, fails. Philip and John appear again in another case: "William de Wodesonese John Dawe Thomas atte Castall William Crop Philip de Berewyk and John de Bekeworth impleaded for imprisoning William Pyk at Haylesham: they say that W. Wodesonese T. atte Castall P. de Berewyk and William Willard had a suit in the Queen's Court of Ryp against John de Bokholte, and that Hugh Swan the Queen's bailiff attached 14 beasts of the said John to ensure his answering to the suit and impounded them at the house of Robert Crop in Haylesham, entrusting them to the care of the defendants: and William Pyk came by night, broke the pound and removed the beasts; wherefore they followed him and took him to the court of Ryp and delivered him to the bailiff and as he could find no surety imprisoned him: the jury find that they acted not from the reasons assigned but from malice." W. de Wodesonese fined £10, J. de Bekeworth 40d., J. Dawe $\frac{1}{2}$ marc, and the others one marc each.

The reference to W. Willard is probably explained by another entry: "John atte Bokholte impounded a horse of William Willard of the value of 20^s for a trespass made into his grass, and when William offered him sufficient payment and amends for the trespass he refused it and illegally detained the horse, which died: fined 40^d." There are a number of other cases against this turbulent John of Bokholte ranging from theft to murder; no respecter of persons, he gave the poor vicar a very unhappy time, a piece of insolence which appears to have particularly impressed the populace. Here is an account of his doings:

John de Bokholte came to Haylesham and there overthrew a certain tumbrell of the Lady Queen to the damage of the Liberty. The same

John, 24^o Edw III, came to the house of Tho^s atte Castell at Haylesham took away 32 gallons of beer of value of 4^s, and killed two pigs worth 5^s; and is a common malefactor to all the Queen's tenants there. Same John, 22^o Edw III, came to Haylesham and assaulted Simon and John Bryd, Queen's tenants, and beat and wounded them, maiming Simon, breaking his arms and legs. And the said John killed many others on whose death no coroner dared to perform his duties for fear of the said John. And the said John beat and wounded Simon de Berewyk at Haylesham that he died. And the same John came to Haylesham and "vi et armis," viz. with a drawn bow pursued Will. Dyghere (alias Dyer) late vicar of the church of H. to his house and then from the said house to the church and did not allow him to come out thence till he had paid a fine at the will of the same John. And on account of his threats and insults to the said vicar the said John was called king among the people; and similarly he beat and wounded Andrew a servant of the vicar and other his servants and many neighbours so that no one dared to serve the said vicar, and he remained in his house alone. And the same John atte Bocholte of Haylesham, for five years from the 18^o Edw. III extorted from W^m late vicar of H. 20^s each year, 100^s in all; and at divers times assaulted and threatened the said W^m Dyghere extorting fines from him; viz. from 21^o Edw III the said W^m remitted to the said John all the tithes of his goods belonging to the said vicar of the value of 4^s; and he took many other unknown fines and extortions from him: And on 22^o Ed III he threatened the servants and attendants of the said vicar from day to day, so that for fear of the said John no one dared to continue in the service of the said vicar. And the same John brings false accusations against the tenants of the Lady Queen and others living in his demesne, and takes from them divers sums of money.

For the above he receives the king's special pardon.

Know all men that we Edward &c at the request of our dear Ric. E. of Arundel and Galfrid de Say have pardoned John atte Bokholte of Haylesham who is of good report and has borne himself well towards us and our people and who by the malicious procurement of certain his private enemies is charged with certain felonies, as the said Earl and Galfrid have borne witness before our own self, for all the homicides &c &c for which he is indicted and also of all outlawries if any have been pronounced against him in these cases, and we have granted to him our peace therefore, except for the death of John de Claud (?) Knight.

There is something distinctly humorous in the description of this ruffian as one "who is of good report and has borne himself well towards us and our people;" I should like to have had the Rev. William Dyghere's opinion on the subject! It is a good example of the power of influence to excuse crime; if ever a man deserved to be hanged John of Buckholt did, but somehow he had obtained the favour of these two Sussex

nobles, possibly he had served under them as man-at-arms, possibly he was of good birth, the fact that he had apparently killed a knight without suffering the consequences suggests that he may have been of gentle blood, though his deeds belied it.

At the same assize charges of extortion are preferred against two clerical officials: Master Robert de Wanlyngburg, officer of the Bishop of Chichester, accused of taking 2s. by extortion from Richard de Myddelton at Hailsham; and William de Rughteburgh, Archdeacon of Lewes, charged with taking 100s. from Alice atte Gate and other tenants of the Queen in Hailsham. In both cases, however, they are acquitted.

Another hundred years passes and we find Hailsham involved in Jack Cade's rebellion. The weak King Henry VI. had been on the throne for 27 years, during which his ministers had oppressed the people at their will. The disaffection thus aroused was fomented by the Duke of York and those who favoured his claim to the crown, and after several small unorganised risings in Kent and Surrey, a leader was found in John Cade, formerly a servant of Sir Thomas Dacre of Heathfield, who, calling himself John Mortimer, gathered together a large force in Kent, Sussex and Surrey, and after defeating Sir Humphrey Stafford at Sevenoaks, marched on London. Here he was received with open arms by the citizens, the only royal troops left in the city being the garrison of the Tower under Lord Scalys, and they appear to have been at least neutral, as they seem to have delivered up without much trouble the unpopular High Treasurer Lord Saye, brother to Sir Roger Fiennes, who built Herstmonceux Castle, and therefore a connection by marriage of Sir Thomas Dacre, Cade's former master. After the execution of Lord Saye Cade foolishly abandoned the good discipline which he had at first enforced, and not only permitted but himself took part in the plundering of several wealthy merchants. This course roused the fears of the richer citizens, so that when the rebels came to enter the city they found London Bridge held by a strong force, including the troops from the Tower; a desperate

battle ensued, ending, after much loss on both sides, in Cade's defeat. But though defeated he was yet so strong that the Chancellor thought it advisable to offer him a free pardon for himself and his followers. This was accepted and the force dispersed; Cade afterwards rejected the pardon and tried to renew the insurrection, but being deserted by his followers was eventually killed by Alexander Iden, Sheriff of Kent, at Heathfield. The records of the pardons granted to the rebels give the names of a large number of those concerned and show that the rising was by no means confined to the lower classes, as is sometimes stated to have been the case. In Kent one knight, 18 esquires and 74 gentlemen were concerned; in Sussex a considerable number of gentlemen, the Abbot of Battle and the Prior of Lewes, the Bailiffs of Pevensey and Seaford, the Constables and Burgesses of Lewes, and the constables of over twenty hundreds with, in many cases, all the men belonging to their hundreds, were involved.⁵² The Hailsham contingent was as follows: William Hokeby of Aylesham and Richard Heggynworth of Walderne, constables of the Hundred of Thille; Thomas Wunnemere, Richard Turner, Stephen Maynard and John Sander, of Aylesham; Thomas Busty of Haylesham gentleman, John Sherman corveser, Robert Bystrete tanner, Thomas Dobbys tailor, Michael Haryot corveser, John Knyght laborer, Andrew Page yoman, John Grent tanner, Robert Gilderygge yoman, William Osbern butcher, Walter Osbern yoman, John Osbern butcher, John Toby tanner, and others of Haylesham; also Thomas Drewe of Otham yoman, and Richard Delve of Michelham yoman.

Thomas Busty, the only one of these of the rank of gentleman, is said by M. A. Lower to have been a member of an Ardingly family of Birchensty or Birsty; a Thomas Buste yoman was, with Andrew Thaccher, constable of the hundred of Ringmer. Gilderygge, Osbern, Dobbys, Drewe and Sander are all names which we shall find occurring again. The presence of no less than three

⁵² "S.A.C.," Vol. XVIII.; Pat., 28^o Hy. VI., p. 2.

tanners and two corvesers points to a considerable leather trade, probably due to the large cattle market, which is also evidenced by the two butchers. These trades are the more noticeable in that amongst the 400 other Sussex names no tanner occurs and only three corvesers, one in the adjoining parish of Herstmonceux and two at Alfriston, and two butchers. On the other hand, while most of the villages are represented largely by husbandmen and labourers, only one of the latter occurs here.

The disastrous Wars of the Roses, by which the ranks of the ancient nobility were thinned out almost to extinction, did not affect Sussex, but with the accession of Richard III. we again find a suggestion of the constant insurrections that troubled England till the days of Henry VII., in a ⁵³warrant issued "to William Cornewaille and Morgan Poyle of Heylesham in Sussex to take 30 of the Beests called Noote (? Neets) late belonging to John son of Robert Redeness the king's rebel and traitor whom they, with some others, had put under sure keeping." John Redeness had, no doubt, been involved in the rising in Kent under Sir George Brown, Sir Roger Clifford and Sir John Gilford, which formed part of the Duke of Buckingham's rebellion. ⁵⁴A William de Cornewail, citizen of London in 1353, bought a messuage, 70 acres of land and 9 acres of wood in Michelham from Roesia, wife of Richard Daveys, late citizen goldsmith of London; and ⁵⁵Guy and Sir John Cornewail both appear in 1409 as receiving annuities from the Honor of Aquila, the latter sealing his receipt with a lion rampant. The name of Powell, to use the ordinary spelling, occurs as early as 1331—⁵⁶William Poul being juror on an inquisition held at Haylesham that year.

The reign of Henry VII. and the earlier years of Henry VIII. are again unrecorded, and with the Reformation begins a new period; the Age of the Nobles passes away and the Era of the People begins; the feudal lance

⁵³ Harleian MSS., 433; Privy Seals of Ric. III.

⁵⁴ "Abbreviatio Rotulorum Originalium."

⁵⁵ Dy. Lanc., Misc., Div. xxvi., No. 43.

⁵⁶ Inq. p.m., 5 Edw. III., p. 2, 136.

gives place to the pike, the bow to the arquebus, the monkish manuscript to the printing press, art to utility; and in all things "the old order changeth yielding place to new;" old abuses are reformed and new abuses form themselves. And as the change works on the nation as a whole so it may be seen affecting every town and village in detail. ✓

CHAPTER V.

THOUGH the abolition of monasteries must have made a great difference to a county so well supplied with religious houses as Sussex, there is no evidence of any disturbance, active opposition or even dissatisfaction thereat. In the case of Hailsham, the fall of Michelham priory had been prepared for by the dissolution in 1526 of the Abbey of Bayham, to which the church and a large portion of the parish had belonged. This earlier suppression, coming with the force of an innovation, had occasioned riots and disorder at Bayham, culminating in an attempt, of course unsuccessful, to restore the monks to their abbey ; but ten years, during which, thanks to the printing press and the facilities for travelling afforded by the peaceful state of the land, the ideas of the outside world must have penetrated into the country to an extent previously unknown, had disturbed the sturdy conservatism of the yeomen, and even the destruction of the great and powerful Abbey of Battle could not move them to more than words. Indeed, it may be doubted if any but the poorest classes were sorry to see the monasteries go ; these lost the support they had so long and so easily obtained from the almonries of neighbouring convents and were thus reduced to beg, or even to work ; but the middle class, now beginning to attain to power, were on the whole pleased ; their religion, it must be remembered, was as yet untouched, the service in the churches was virtually unchanged, even many images must have remained, such at least as were not of marketable value from their ornaments of metal or precious stones. And it was "good for trade." Travellers who had formerly sought the hospitality of the priory would now have to come to the village hostels ; the corn would no longer have to be ground at the priory mill ; the land would be more evenly distributed and small estates could be picked up for a mere song ; and surely with all this wealth pouring into the king's treasury taxation would be reduced or even abolished. Now, having ejected the

monks and turned their glorious churches into quarries for building material, the next thing to go is their religion. When a man has used the altar stone of his professed creed to pave his pigstye the chances are that every time he feeds the pigs he will feel more certain of the falseness of that creed. So, what with the spread of knowledge and the "protestations" of Luther and his followers, and what with the desire to justify themselves for what they must have felt to have been sacrilege in the purchase and plunder of the materials consecrated to religion, and lands given, as the universal formula runs, "to God and the monks of the monastery of the Holy Trinity at Michelham"—or whatever the monastery may be. What with these causes, furthered by the politics of King Henry, and other motives, some purer, some baser, a strong current set in favour of the Reformed Religion, to which additional impetus was afforded by the accession of Edward VI. to the throne. And in accordance with the known laws of recoil, the effects were especially evident in stolid conservative Sussex and by no means least in the parish of Hailsham.

The events of Mary's reign were not of a nature to inspire affection for the old religion, and Hailsham was in the centre of the persecutions in Sussex; Lewes, where most of the thirty martyrs of this county were burned, is only twelve miles distant. Hellingly supplied two victims, Eastbourne one, Heathfield two, Mayfield three—besides four who were burned in that town; and Richard Wodeman, the most famous of them all, came from the adjacent parish of Warbleton and, being one of the largest ironmasters in the neighbourhood, he must have been well known in this parish. A new vicar had been presented to the church of Hailsham in the first year of Queen Mary, the patron of the living (Edward Gage) being a Roman Catholic, so there can be little doubt which party the vicar favoured. Mary died in November, 1558, and it is with little surprise that we find ⁵⁷ Strype recording that in the following March "the

⁵⁷ "Annals of the Reformation;" and see Ch. VIII.

parish church of Halylesham in Sussex was spoiled, and that by the inhabitants of the said town." As the source of Strype's information was a letter issued by the Privy Council on the 29th of March, it seems not improbable that the spark which caused this outbreak may have been the ceremonials of Ladyday, the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, patroness of the church of Hailsham.

The time of Elizabeth was probably the most genuinely God-fearing and religious period in our nation's history, but it ended in producing the extravagantly sanctimonious Puritan. One is apt, I think, to look upon the Puritans as a race of men who sprang up, possibly from dragon's teeth sown by Cadmus Cromwell, about 1645, clad in long cloak and steeple-crowned hat, with a nasal whine and grotesque Christian names. In reality, of course, they were a product of evolution and existed at a much earlier date; in fact, the curious baptismal names, so characteristic of the men, were mostly given before 1630 and, unless the name has some occult power over the nature, are surely more characteristic of the sponsor than of the babe, who doubtless on many occasions remonstrated vigorously, but unintelligibly. The Hailsham registers are rather rich in Puritan names. Desire Smyth was minister here in 1614 and his son, born in 1617, was called after him, as was a son of George Stone in 1615. The baptisms of 1611 include Muchmarcy, daughter of John Gur; a Muchmercy Rowfe is ⁵⁸mentioned in 1625 as a previous tenant of land then held by Zealous Stone, widow, possibly the mother of Desire Stone. In the same year two girls are baptised Rejoyce, while, curiously enough, almost the last entry on my list, 30 years later—1641—records the burial of Lament Coe, widow. Amongst the more cheerful names is that of Bethankfull Farncom, who married Anne Cade in 1631, and in 1638, under the shorter title of Thankfull Farncombe (his wife had died that year), made his will, leaving his children—John, Agnes and Elizabeth—to the care of his master,

⁵⁸ Lord Gage's Manor Book.

John Akehurst of Wilmington, butcher. One advantage of these names is that they fit either sex equally well; for instance, in 1615 we have the marriage of Freegift Mab with Mary Carek, and in 1629 the baptism of Freegifte, daughter of Robert Hamlen. Fearenot is a curious name for a girl, but Humilitie is rather pretty, and Faithfull, wife of John Pearce, has a pleasant sound, but for sheer ghastly cruelty it would be hard to beat "Fleefornicacion baseborn daughter of ——" (1620); this is visiting the sins of the parents upon the children with a vengeance! And the same horrible name is given eight years later to the baseborn son of another woman, although it had proved ineffective in the first case, for in 1624 another baseborn daughter of the same woman was baptised Repent. I think, from the evidence of a certain will, that the son dropped this Christian(?) name and adopted the surname of his father instead. The last of these entries is the baptism in 1650 of Mortifie Hicks.

Two of the few detailed entries in the Registers afford similar evidence of the Puritan feeling, having evidently been inserted as examples of judgments "by the hand of God." The first is the burial of "Edwarde Willforde who felle downe dead as he was playing a match at football on the sabbath day" in 1625. In connection with this it is worth remembering that in 1618 King James had ordered a proclamation to be read in all churches allowing public sports to be held on Sunday after the hour of Divine service; this edict greatly incensed the Puritan party, and no doubt this death of Edward Wilford was admired and gloated over and made the text of household and pulpit admonition; what if it were the only death of the kind in eight years? Such a detail is of no consequence to the numerous narrow minds who regard Providence as a well-meaning but somewhat clumsy collaborator in their own schemes, any more than the context is of consequence to the constant quoter of texts. The second note is less satisfactory as a "judgement," lacking the Sabbath, and being to a certain extent foreseeable, nor altogether undeserved: 1665 "Buried

John Lucas who was smitten with sudden death att the alehouse havinge bin longe tiplinge there."

Though the people were strongly Protestant several of the larger landowners were Roman Catholics, notably the gentle family of Gage, and in 1626 the property of two of these recusants was seized by the Crown and granted away; ⁵⁹ Shemaia Selhershe obtained: "Certain lands called Polegate, Pottgate and Pickfurrs and Cowfeilds alias East Doddingtons in Haylesham and Poundfeild, Cherrie Croft and West Doddingtons in Haylesham and Focington, and the Manor of Otham, and other lands elsewhere, possessions of James Rootes recusant." And ⁶⁰ John Wright, gent., was given a lease for 41 years of "two parcels of fresh marsh called Newmarsh in Haylesham containing 34 acres, and 32 acres of fresh marsh called Homestalls Marsh, and 20 acres of land there called le Deanes, possessions of Edward Gage Esq. recusant."

The Civil War did not affect this part of Sussex; or rather, no actual fighting took place here, for the effects of the defeat of the royalist party were sufficiently evident. The old vicar was replaced by one more agreeable to those in power, himself to be ejected at the Restoration; and commissioners of the Commonwealth came to the parish to survey and value the lands there which were to be seized by the government or compounded for by their owners. For many of the chief holders of land had fought on the King's side; the Earl of Dorset, who held the Manor of Michelham Park Gate, had been one of the garrison of Oxford; Sir George Strode of Squerries in Kent, another prominent cavalier, held the manors of Bowley and Downash; Sir Thomas Gage who, as we have seen, was lord of the manor of Hailsham, was also involved; and William Gage, Esq., of Bentley and his wife Bridgett were Papists, recusants and delinquents, so that ⁶¹ Rushmersh in Haylesham, which Bridgett Gage had leased to John Carryll, of Harting, was seized for the Commonwealth in 1653 by

⁵⁹ Pat., 2 Car. I., p. 1 [Cal.].

⁶⁰ Pat., 2 Car. I., p. 11 [Cal.].

⁶¹ Royalist Composition Papers. Series I., 109.

George Stonestreet, Henry Stalmon and Stephen Humfrey. And there were others, but the greatest of them was the late King Charles himself, who owned, as of the Duchy of Lancaster, the row of houses on the east of the High Street from the market square to the Vicarage field, and also all that portion of Hailsham within the manor or Liberty of Pevensey. Of the latter an account will be found in the next chapter. The following description of the tenements in the High Street is compiled from three documents: the Parliamentary Survey printed in "S.A.C.," Vol. XXIV., which gives most details of the property; a similar survey of 1650 in the ⁶²Burrell Collections, which gives more of the tenures; and a "Petition to the Committee of Parliament for removing obstructions, &c.," also in the Burrell MSS., which gives further information as to tenure. The two surveys agree fairly closely, but not in all points; where any items appear only in the first they are marked (A.), in the second only (B.); while notes from the Petition are given in brackets.

A SURVEY of several tenements in the town and parish of Helsham, being parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster in the County of Sussex, and parcel of the possessions of Charles Stuart late King of England.

Message and four shops with four other rooms below-stairs, and five chambers above, a stable, garden and yard; abutting on the Churchyard East, the way leading to the Church South, the Highway and Market place West, and William Stone's tenement North; now in occupation of John Beatty, who holds by lease from Richard Waterhouse for 21 years at £6 yearly; by what right Waterhouse granted the same is unknown

6^s 0 0

[John at Mill temp. Richard III. was seised in fee of one message in Hailsham and did by Deed Poll 24 June 3rd Ric. III grant the same to Richard Mason and his heirs. Thomas Welling was seised of the same by Deed Poll 2nd Eliz. and granted it to Richard Wells who, 3rd Eliz, conveyed it to William Fairway. Elias Farnway by Deed Poll 1607 for £130 granted it to Richard Waterhouse, uncle of the petitioner to whom he bequeathed it by his will dated 1613; one Bathy now dwells in the said house, formerly a mercer's shop]

(B.) Messuage &c in Helsham in the Market place; abutting on the Churchyard East, Thomas Falkener's tenement South, the highway West, and Richard Mepham's tenement North; now in occupation of William Stone who pretends to hold it by demise from John French but only produced a Deed Poll of 20 Oct. 1641 whereby Richard Hamlin for £16. 15. sold to John French a tenement held by him by lease of the Earl of Dorset at 3^s 4^d for 26 years, dated 11^o Car. 10^s 0 0
(? a mistake for £2.)

[John French has held for 45 years the tenement claimed by him, in which two poor people live, put in by the parish: he bought it of Richard Hamblin]

Three shops and two chambers over them: abutting on the churchyard East, and the highway West; now in occupation of Thomas Bodle who holds by Deed Poll 1617 by which Stephen and Susan Hood sold it for £31 to John Bodle and heirs 3^s 0^s 0^d

(A.) Tenement consisting of one shop, two rooms below-stairs, and two chambers; abutting on churchyard East, highway West; now in occupation of William Read 2 6 0

(A.) Tenement consisting of three rooms; abutting on churchyard East, the tenement of William Read South, the highway or marketplace West; now in occupation of William Gowringe 1 10 0

(B.) Messuage; abutting the churchyard East, the highway West; in occupation of Joan Falkner widow and executrix of Thomas Falkner who held by assignment of 13^o Car. whereby John White for £40 grants to Thomas Falkner the premises granted to him by Edward Earl of Dorset by indenture of 11^o Car. for 26 years at a reserve rent not mentioned, but Falkner to pay 4^d per annum to Earl of Dorset 2 0 0

Mem. If White's grant be valid 12 years remain unexpired

Tenement and smith's shop with rooms a little chamber and a garden abutting on the churchyard East, the highway West, and (B) the house of Nicholas Baker North; in occupation of (A.) John Wood (B.) Alexander Edes who holds by Deed Poll by which John White sold it to him for £25 2 10 0 (A.)
..... 2 0 0 (B.)

[The smith's shop, now in occupation of Wood, has been 40 years in possession of John Edes and his predecessors, reputed owners.]

Tenement consisting of one shop, one low room, and two chambers; abutting on the churchyard East, the highway West; now in occupation of Edward Crettall who holds by demise from William Earle for 10 years at 6^d per annum reserved rent to Earl of Dorset from whom Crettall affirms that his father had a lease, not produced

2 5 0 (A.)
2 10 0 (B.)

[Cruttall claims by purchase from Luke Waterhouse and Thomas Bayley, executors of Richard Somner.]

(A.) A small parcel of waste ground containing three perches; abutting on the churchyard East, the tenement of Edward Crettall South, the highway West, and the tenement of Nicholas Baker North

2^s 4^d

Tenement consisting of three rooms belowstairs and two above, with a garden; abutting on the churchyard East, the highway South and West and the Parsonage field North; in occupation of Nicholas Baker who holds by Deed Poll 1637 by which John White sold it to him for £16

1 0 0

Total (A.) 18 13 4
(B.) 18 10 0

The late King Charles by Letters Patent under the Duchy seal 8th July the 9th year of his reign granted to Edward Earl of Dorset all the above for 31 years, for yearly rent of 26^s 8^d, with covenants for sufficient and constant repairs at his own cost; (A.) which rent was paid till about 1642 as appears by the auditors' certificate. (B.) Now forasmuch as some of the said tenements are almost ruined there hath been in general breach of covenant, therefore the letters patent are void and the whole is in possession—except any of the leases and deeds be valid.

(A.) The premises are the discovery of Capt. Christopher Bodley.

(B.) These tenements sold to Xpher Bodley gent. of Westminster, rated at his desire in fee to Benjamin Okeshott of Chichester.

[The committee orders the rights of the tenants to be allowed and the sum of £5. 10 paid to the Clerk of the Committee to be repaid. The contractors for the Sale of Royal Lands to allow the said Cornet Xpher Bodly what he had paid on any other purchase that he might make.]

The Commonwealth lasted but a decade and perished with its one supremely great man. When Cromwell's iron grasp was loosed it fell to pieces, as all parties founded on religious excess must sooner or later fall; but it had done its work. One Cromwell under Henry VIII. had played a leading part in the destruction of the foreign

influence of Rome; he died as a traitor; his namesake and relative shattered the sacred power of the King; he died himself a king, but reigning in terror of his life, quartering his arms with the arms of England, but leaving no successor able to support their honour. Papal power and royal prerogative had in their day been of service, even of need, to the nation, but that day had passed; one desperate attempt had been made by Mary to restore the outworn religion—useless, of course; fortunately for England and himself Charles II. made no such effort for the supremacy of the Crown; his successor, striving for both powers, lost all. At the Restoration, thanks to the indolent good-humour of King Charles—as ready to reward an enemy as to forget a friend—the usual furious retaliation of a victorious exile was not enforced; and with the exception of the childish and degrading insults to dead Cromwell's body, almost the only penalties fell on the regicides and the clergy; the latter, it is true, were ejected in great numbers, but in many cases they had themselves supplanted loyal ministers—as for instance here at Hailsham. Altogether, the renewal of the monarchy was generally acquiesced in and in a surprisingly short time the country had settled down peacefully. Whatever may have been the feelings of the men at Hailsham they did not allow them to interfere with business; accordingly when about 1670 thirteen post town were ⁶³“established for the benefit of the people” in Sussex we find that Hailsham was one of them. ✓

Whether the Plague penetrated to this part of the country is doubtful, at any rate no deaths therefrom are recorded, the only reference to this terrible and most historic disease, ranging as it does from the time of Samuel to the present day, is at the early date of 1583, when Martha Swane is recorded to have died “of the Plague.” But a testimony to the healthiness of the town is given in 1691 by a note in the church register: “Memorand. that there were but four buried this year

⁶³ Blome's “Britannia.”

1691. The like not known in this parish." But, to keep the average up, between December 14, 1699, and March 12th following we find fourteen deaths, ten noted as being by small pox and two without affidavits and therefore probably from the same cause, as a foot note says: "All those that Dyed of the Smal Poxe had no affidavits tho I suppose they were buried in Woollen." This last entry has reference to the law passed in 1678, in order to encourage the wool trade in England, that all persons must be buried in woollen and an affidavit to that effect given to the officiating minister; the latter clause may have been an occasional cause of inconvenience, it was certainly a great trial to the parish clerk of Hailsham, whose vagaries of spelling will be referred to again; here are some of his attempts, taken from the Churchwardens' books: 1753, "for laying forth and a thy Davey for widow asten 3^s, for going to hors mounses (Herstmonceux!) and money spent to Carry har to Church 4^s." "Widow Smith for laying Kings child forth and atthedavi 2^s." "Hed's wife for Laying forth of preses child and athedavi 2^s, more for caring the child to Church 2^s, more for 3 wicks trubbel and Charg in the hous that theay ware at in the Childs sickness 3^s."

The Churchwardens' books of Hailsham, though not very remarkable or dissimilar from the accounts of other parishes, afford a considerable amount of information about the life of the eighteenth century. The series of accounts relating to the relief of the poor is complete from 1749 and in good condition with the exception of the volume containing the first few years, which is very rotten and powdery. The great number of inhabitants in receipt of relief, many of them members of families now in good position, is striking, and also the variety of relief required and granted, ranging from leather breeches to hog fattening; some of the applications being for complete outfits of clothes, including an extra suit for Sundays, which seems rather a luxury to be supplied at the ratepayers' expense; while there are innumerable requests for flour, and, of course, money. A good many entries naturally bear on sickness, and the terrible scourge

of small pox keeps cropping up, with notices of food bought for the invalids, as in 1754: "A pound of Butter and Milck for the Small pox 6^d, for 2 6^d loves for the small pox 1^s, Tea for the small pox people 4^s." The prices are worth noting, a pound of butter costing less than a loaf; the four shillingworth of tea would probably have been a quarter of a pound. There are also payments of 2s. for nursing and 1s. for waiting upon the small pox people, scarcely an extravagant reward. One reference to madness occurs in the payment of £5. 8s. "on John Woods sen^r account going to Bedlam," in 1761. Lesser illnesses are evidenced by such payments as 8s. "for Hannah Usbournes Boord and 3 Doases of Sats (salts)," and "6d. for fetching a Bottle of Sea water for Mary Snatt." This last remedy appears not to have been efficacious, as later in the year there is a payment of 1s. "for a Petition for Mary Snats goeing into the Hospital."

By the end of the century a doctor was employed at a regular salary to attend the paupers, and in 1784 was paid to "M^r Kerby Salvey for Docttering the poore £12. 12.," for the half year. And in 1799 an agreement is entered into that Mr. William Long shall attend all cases except small pox for £25 per annum, which sum was increased in 1801 to £40. A chapter of "Our Parish" is devoted to Doctor Long, under the title "A Character." "William Long died in June, 1833, aged sixty-five. He was for many years our leading surgeon; he stood high, had a considerable practice, and was popular with all classes. In manners he was a gentleman, ease and independence being combined with the suavity of a courtier. In social life he was the wit, the humourist and the convivialist. . . . In person he was bulky more than grand and his dress was peculiar, and after a fashion of his own—top-boots hanging about his legs and ankles in many a wrinkle; long square-tailed coat with outside flapped pockets; long vest, covering a capacious paunch; double-frilled shirt, with high upstanding collar and white neckerchief, well tied up to the chin, topped with a somewhat broad-brimmed

hat. The hat and the boots never varied, nor did his walking-stick—a heavy bamboo or cane silver-mounted, with key-hole shaped for the tassel or ribbon, and iron shod. He was the son of a Romney Marsh farmer and brought with him a fortune of £7000, but . . . in economies he had no method; he could never make the two ends of expenditure and income meet. . . . He had a great dread of fire and housebreakers, and always kept his pistols loaded and sword drawn in his bedroom ready for action. . . . His household bill of fare was simple and inexpensive, the dinner every day throughout the year being beefsteak pudding, and no side dishes or extras. I have by me a leaf taken from the butcher's ledger of the time, James Kennet. The entries run thus: 'To one pound and a half beef, no bone, 365 days in succession!' . . . The doctor retired from active service and lived a few years in the old cottage where the curate before him had found a quiet home. Here he prepared his last will; his executors found the devisor liberal to many of his old friends; there were numerous legacies, but the legatees were never the richer, there being no estate to administer." So much for Doctor Long!

But some cases did not require the doctor's aid, only a few extra comforts, as for instance, in 1762 the Widow Smith is given "a Mogg of Mild Bear to make Cordiall, three Shuger Rolls and three Candles." (The "mild bear" suggests the equally mild old joke about brewin'.) Nor was beer reserved only for invalids, for in 1749 2s. was paid "Dame Marshall for the affidavit, laying forth, and bear at the burial of Ann Jeffry's child." The frequent entries of "spent on Licker," softened down at a later period to "spent at Thorp's" (*i.e.*, the "Crown"), make one wonder at the long suffering of the ratepayers in calmly accepting the proposition that the churchwardens should have drink for themselves and their friends at the expense of the parish.

At the time that the old Workhouse, at the corner of the Market Square, was given up in 1854, it was stated that the property had been acquired by the parish in

1764. I am rather inclined to think, however, that the real date of acquisition was 1762, as in the accounts for that date are a considerable number of entries of purchases for the Workhouse; as for instance: "Bought of William Inskip one Beadsteadle for the Parish. . . . Paid Rich for puting a Bead up. . . . Bought for the Workhouse 12 Trenchers 4 Handledishes 3 Round dishes 5 eared dishes, 12 spoons and one Skimmer. . . . Paid Fitness for mending the Little Copper in the Workhouse;" and, finally, "Spent on Licker, for bringing Dinnes English and moving the — in to the Workhouse." The word omitted in the last sentence is partly obliterated and looks like "Pork," but is possibly intended for "Porpers," or something similar. If I am correct in supposing that this is the date of entry into the house that was used till 1854, there was probably no real Workhouse before this time, the poor being lodged, as we have seen in one case in the Parliamentary Survey of 1650, in various houses; there is an entry in 1605 of the burial of John Gasken "out of the Almishouse," but I know of no other reference to any alms houses in the parish. An inventory and valuation of the Hailsham Poor House was made in 1788, the total value being £128; a list is given of articles missing to the amount of £13 and another list of articles "which appear to have been added by Mr Saunders" to the value of over £20, including a cider-press, a pair of andirons, a birdcage, two barrels of cheese, a parcel of sea coal, a spinning wheel, four woollen wheels and 96 pounds of wool. The wheels may have included the "three spinning wheals" bought from Henry Smith in 1783 for £1. 4s.

One of the principal ways of employing the poor was by setting them to spin and there is a constant occurrence of such items as "paid Widow Curll for spinning 9 pounds of Tow 4^s 6^d" (this same Dame Curle also received 6d. for making "one Round feroock for Swain"). Flax was largely grown for this purpose, and besides the payments to men for "swingeing" and "heckling" flax, we find the parish buying land on which to grow it. In 1803 "Mr George Carey agreed to let the parish have

two acres of ground for the purpose of sewing flax at a rent of £7 per acre, Mr King (the churchwarden) to be responsible that it shall not be tithed ;” and in 1808 Mr. Bristow offers to sell an acre of flax to the parish at a fair appraisement.

At a Vestry held in 1803 it was agreed to have the Workhouse properly repaired and to have proper conveniences for the manufactory and to have a well in the yard. Besides the Poor House, the parish owned and gradually acquired a number of cottages ; in 1808 Samuel Lambert's house was bought for £40 for the use of the poor, and in 1810 John Wood requested the parish to convert his stable, situate on a part of Hailsham Common called the Bell Banks, into a cottage, at an estimated cost of £12. 15s., which they agreed to do, on condition that after the death of Wood and his wife the house should belong to the parish.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century the question of the relief of the poor had become one of great moment and there was a general feeling of discontent amongst the poorer classes, culminating in some cases in actual violence, in others merely in threats. In 1816 the Hailsham Vestry agreed that in consequence of two threatening letters addressed to Mr. Sampson, containing threats against his life and that of the other parish officer, a reward of 30 guineas should be offered by the parish. And the next year, in consequence of the faggot rick and brick kiln shade belonging to Bartholomew Osborn, one of the overseers, being maliciously set on fire, it was unanimously resolved that a reward of £100 should be offered for information and that 200 handbills should be printed and that the same should be cried through the parish. No conviction, however, appears to have been made.

In 1837 it was agreed that the mills belonging to the parish and now situated at the Central House, Hellingly, should be offered to the Board of Guardians at the price they were valued at. These, I suppose, were the hand corn mills stated by Geering in “Our Parish” to have been the cause of riot, in consequence of which their use

was abandoned. In 1845 it was resolved to sell the following property belonging to the parish:

1. Messuage in Hailsham called Bodles Cottage, adjoining the Churchyard, late in occupation of Henry Rich.
2. Portion of the Parish field formerly called Gorman's Wood, in Hellingly, containing about 7 acres 3 roods, in occupation of Edwin Rickman.
3. Messuage, &c., part of the House Field, in occupation of Mrs. Smith.
4. Messuage, &c., at South-west corner of Churchyard, in occupation of Messrs. Hoad & Burfield, or their under tenants.
5. A garden and two pieces of land, containing one acre, in occupation of Huggett & Adams.
6. Messuage, &c., on Hailsham Common, in occupation of Harris and Adams.
7. Copyhold cottage, &c., at lower end of the South Common, in occupation of George Rich and John Reynolds.
8. Copyhold cottage, &c., on the South Common, in occupation of Samuel Miller.
9. Copyhold cottage and land heretofore part of the Waste called Harebeating Green, containing 1-ro. 2-p., in occupation of George Longley.
10. Copyhold piece of land, 30 perches, at South Common, subject to right of way from lands called Willpens, in occupation of Samuel Terry.
11. Copyhold cottage and land at Hailsham Common, in occupation of Stephen Lambert.
12. Copyhold cottage and land formerly waste of the said Manor, containing 20 perches, on Harebeating Green, now in occupation of John Burton, and other land to the south of it, in occupation of James Foster.
13. Copyhold cottage and land, one rood, in occupation of Joseph Goldsmith.
14. Copyhold cottage and garden at Cacklebury, in occupation of Samuel Smith.
15. Two dwellings and garden near the Garretts Gates, in occupation of Nicholas Bignell and Boniface.
16. Garden ground at Magham Down, on the Turnpike Road from Gardner Street to Amberstone on the North, in occupation of Samuel Honisett.
17. Copyhold cottage near Polegate, in occupation of Charles Whiting and William Simmons.

The old Workhouse was abandoned in 1854, the parish officers having represented to the Board of Guardians that the premises could not be conveniently used for the

purposes of a Union and that they might be let to the advantage of the parish, being estimated at the value of £500, yielding a yearly rent of £25. The headquarters of the Union were therefore moved to the present building just outside the parish, in Hellingly.

Returning to the early accounts, we find that the parish bounds were evidently beaten in 1749, as there is a note of "£2. 13. paid at Joneses the charge of going the bounds." Jones may have been the lawyer of that date, as in 1757 there is an entry, "Paid at Joneses for sining the books, 12^s." There are constant payments for the signing of the books, as for instance in 1752, "Paid for the Mittermus and signing the book, 6^s." Such outlandish words as "affidavit" and "mittimus" might well trouble the unlearned, but it is in the more ordinary English words that the most eccentric spelling is to be found, as for instance in this document which is pinned on to the fly-leaf of the 3rd Register: "An asesment Mead one the 27 day of march 1710 one the widow Stevens goods Item one fether bed and one flock bed one chafe bed 3 tubs and one Ciller and to bougits and 3 pilers and to cheestes and one warming pan and one brass keettel and 6 putter dishes and to trugs and one Iern poridge pot and one Iern keettel 1 grigiarn and one spitt one pair of touns one Chafing dish to Sakes and one Lether badg to bowles and four blankuts and to Cufeluts and one Cubard and what is in them and one pair of pothoks." Most of the objects are recognisable, though the use of the leather badge is not obvious, "cufelets" is not so very far from "coverlets," and though "grigiarn" looks rather mysterious it is a fairly good phonetic rendering of "gridiron." The parish clerk of about 1740 is responsible for some curiously spelt entries in the registers, as in the baptism of "Mary dafter of fardingnando by Mary his wife;" in this case he was so exercised as to the spelling of Ferdinando that he quite forgot to insert the surname! But his record is the baptism in 1740 of "Anorgattelton dafter of Gorge Peares by Anne his wife." What is this extraordinary name intended for? The only solution that I have been able to think

of is that when he was going to enter the baptism he asked someone what the child had been christened and they were uncertain, but said it was "Anne or Catherine!" Another point in the entries for 1740, which speaks badly for the morality of that day, is the large number of illegitimate children baptised; on two pages containing 32 entries, "beas-born child" occurs nine times! The tendency of the Sussex dialect to broaden one syllable into two, as shown in the conversion of "base" into "beas," is noticeable in such entries as "Bured a parson his neam unknown," which occurs in 1739. Other notices of the burial of unknown persons are to be found at various dates, as: 1612 "a strang mayd," 1648 "a child that was left in the church porch at Hailsham," 1668 "a child that came from Battel," 1737 "the travelers child."

The end of the eighteenth century found England engaged in the great war with France and was consequently a period of military activity, more especially along the south coast, where an invasion was feared. About 1803 barracks were erected on Hailsham Common, behind where the "Grenadier Inn" now stands, and remained in use till 1811. This was not quite the first time that the Common had come into contact with troops, as appears from the following document:

⁶⁴A Certificate from the Deputie Lievetenants to the
Lords concerning the musters &c.

14 Sept
1625

May it please yo^r Lo^{pp^s} according to yo^e Letters lately sent unto us, we mett this day and have given direction for the calleing of all the Captaynes wth the trayned bands both of horse and foote before us w^{hin} the Rapes of Pevensey and Hastings at Hayllesham Common on Wendsday the 21st of September.

Of the regiments stationed here there is little to say: the first mention I have found is that in September, 1804, the South Gloucester Militia left Hailsham for Brighton, and the 23rd Infantry and Dorset Militia marched into the Barracks at Hailsham. At the end of that year the 8th Regiment of Foot were stationed here, where Major Richard Masey Hansard died and was buried. Next

year the 39th Infantry also lost an officer here, Lieut. Thomas Bonnell Webb—to whose memory there is a tablet in the church—while riding for the first time a spirited horse given him by his young wife lost control of the animal and, colliding with Amberstone turnpike gate, was killed.⁶⁵ In 1806 the 88th were here, and in 1808 the Berkshire Militia—17 of whom died here. The Sussex Militia next year, then the 32nd Foot, and in 1811 the 88th Regiment again. One relic of this time remains in a small mound at the north-east corner of the recreation ground; this spot was at that time a cross-ways on the Common and beneath the mound was buried a soldier who had committed suicide—and no doubt a stake was driven through his body in accordance with the custom of those days. Apparently the stake and the crossways served their purpose, for there is no record, not even a legend, of his having returned as either ghost or vampire. The military element is now supplied by No. 5 Garrison Company 2nd Sussex Artillery Volunteers.

About 1846 Hailsham began to feel the penalties of greatness and in April that year the following letter was sent to Captain Mackay, the head of the Sussex Constabulary :

Sir.—At a vestry meeting of the ratepayers and other inhabitants of Hailsham held this day it was unanimously considered advisable to request you would consider the propriety of removing Mr. Inspector Daws from Horsebridge to this place. We beg to represent that Hailsham every alternate week holds one of the largest Markets in this county, that an extensive manufactory of rope, cordage, &c., is carried on in the town giving employment to between 90 and 100 hands, likewise operative trades of other descriptions creating labour for many persons, it being well situated for general business with a prospect of increase by the intended Line of Railway about to be made to it, and having two Beer Shops just established as well as a lodging house for travellers, which cause the congregating of many disorderly persons, which is frequently a great annoyance to the inhabitants and often requiring the presence of a Police Officer. These considerations induce us to make the present application and your acceding to our request will greatly oblige.

Signed on behalf of the meeting :

J. M. CUNNINGHAM, Chairman.

⁶⁵ "Our Parish."

The result of this letter is not stated, but in 1848 it was agreed that every facility should be given to Captain Mackay's application for the piece of ground late in occupation of the parish at Mangle Hooks—presumably for the use of the police. The present police station, however, was not built till 1861.

In May, 1849, the railway from Polegate to Hailsham was opened; the occasion was unfortunately saddened by the death of one John Hield of Bexhill, who was killed while standing on the step of a railway carriage by the gate at Mulbrook. It was not till 30 years later that the line was carried on by Mayfield to Tunbridge Wells.

In 1855 the Recreation Ground was enclosed; previous to this date cricket and other games had been held on the Common. This Common, from Ersham farm on the south, round the west of the town to the neighbourhood of the barracks, was the scene of all fairs, sports, &c.; here in 1805 John Gully, pugilist and afterwards Member of Parliament, fought his first prize fight, against Pierce, and was defeated. And here, as I have said, the village cricket was played; the earliest match I have found recorded is in 1788.

⁶⁶On Monday, the 25th of this Instant August, will be played on Hailsham Common a Match between the Gentlemen of Herstmonceux, with Messrs. Henbury of Hoe, and Wood of Hawkhurst, and the Gentlemen of Hailsham, with Messrs. Hurron and Crowhurst of Hellingly, for half a Guinea each man.

Likewise, on Tuesday, the 26th Inst., at the same place, a Match between Messrs. Kenyon and Hastings of Hailsham, with Martin of Battle, against Messrs. Colbrand of Cowbeach, Henbury of Hoe and Wood of Hawkhurst, for Five Guineas a side.

The Wickets to be pitched each day at Ten in the morning, and the Game to be played out.

A Good Dinner will be provided on the Ground.

Few more dates remain to be mentioned. In 1878 was built the Board School, and in 1880 the Infants' School. Previous to 1827 the vestry of the church had been used, but in this year ⁶⁷a school was built on the Common and apparently in 1846 another was erected, as

⁶⁶ "The Sussex Advertiser."

⁶⁷ "Our Parish."

in October of that year ⁶⁸a grant was made in trust to Rev. G. Gayton Harvey and Rev. G. Curteis Luxford of 20 rods of waste of the manor of Otham in Hailsham abutting to the turnpike road leading from Hailsham to the east on the north, that the same and the building intended to be erected thereon may be used as a school for the instruction of poor children.

In 1885 the Waterworks Company was started and the town is now supplied with excellent water from springs near Magham Down. And, finally, in 1895 the first election of the Parish Council was held, and Hailsham distinguished itself by returning three clergymen—all that were available. Recent elections of this august body have passed off quietly, without bloodshed. The Parish Council have erected one new gate, two seats, and three notice-boards on the Recreation Ground. They have also rolled the cricket-pitch.

⁶⁸ Manor Rolls of Otham.

CHAPTER VI.

THE manor of Downash lies in the marsh land at the south-east of Hailsham, mainly within the Liberty portion, extending also into the parishes of Westham and Pevensey. The present form of the name does not appear till the sixteenth century, previous to which date it is called La Doune—the name remains in Down Level and Down Stream. With the exception of a Richard de la Dune, a tenant of Otham manor about 1200, who evidently took his name from this place, the first notice thereof is in 1278, ⁶⁹ when Alice, late the wife of John Russell—we have met her before—recovered against John the smith (*le fevere*) of Heylesham a third part of a messuage and $1\frac{1}{2}$ acre of land in la Done and against Gilbert de Berewicke a third of two acres in the same vill, which she claimed to hold as dower. And two years later this land is again the cause of dispute and ⁷⁰ Salomon son of John atte Doune arraigns the assize of mort d'ancestor against Eleanor the Queen Mother (holder of the Honor of Aquila) and Alice, late the wife of John atte Doune, touching land in La Doune. This John is obviously the same as John Russell, as he is mentioned as father of Salomon and husband of Alice, but the name of atte Doune became at a later date a real patronymic.

The two following notes are of interest as showing the lawlessness of the country and the extreme slowness of the law. In February, 1298, a ⁷¹ commission was issued to John le Sauvage and Henry Spigurnel to enquire by jury of the County of Sussex and the Liberty of the Cinque Ports touching the persons who lately assaulted Roger de Levelande, constable of Pevensey Castle, and Richard Coury, sergeant thereof, at La Dune by Heylesham and wounded Roger and killed Richard. A clear eleven years later, March, 1309, another ⁷² commission is issued to William Inge and John de Abernin to enquire touching the death of Richard Cory at La

⁶⁹ Assize Roll, 914.

⁷⁰ Pat. 9^o Edw. I., m. 18 [Cal.].

⁷¹ Pat. 26^o Edw. I., m. 28 D. [Cal.].

⁷² Pat. 2^o Edw. II., m. 11 D. [Cal.].

Done in Haylesham, and also what persons prevented the coroners from holding an inquest, and by whose procurement he was killed. It will, I hope, be remembered that one of the charges against turbulent John of Buckholt was that owing to his threats no coroner dared to hold an inquest on his victims; but the discrepancy in the dates, over fifty years, renders it improbable that he was concerned in this murder. Judging from the rate at which the arm of the law was moving it is not improbable that by the time sentence had been given against the offenders the result would have been much the same as in the trial of the pig in "The Hunting of the Snark," when "the jailer informed them with tears, That the sentence would not have the slightest effect, as the pig had been dead for some years!"

⁷³ Amongst the deeds of Battle Abbey are two dating from la Doune, both of 1324; by the first, John son and heir of Simon Litelwaite of Heylesham, enfeoffs James de Cralle of Pevensey in all tenements, &c., of la Downe which Isabella, wife of Simon, held in right of heritage of said John. By the second, James de Cralle enfeoffs John, son of Simon Litelwaite and "Juliana my daughter his wife," in "all my tenement called la Doune:" Henry Paulin, Henry Alard and John de la Forde, clerk, being witnesses. ⁷⁴ Simon Littlewatte occurs as a baron of Pevensey in 1311, John in the Nonae returns for 1341, and his son ⁷⁵ John as resident in Hailsham 1374 and 1384, though in a ⁷³ deed of 1379, by which he grants to Simon Anneys of Westham all the lands in Hailsham which he had inherited from John his father, he is styled "of Pevensey."

When the priory of Michelham was dissolved the ⁷⁶ manor of Downeaysshe was amongst the possessions of that house granted to Thomas Cromwell, on whose attainder it was ⁷⁷ leased by the King to Thomas

⁷³ Thorpe's Catalogue of the Battle Abbey Deeds.

⁷⁴ Coram Rege, Hil. 5^o Edw. II.

⁷⁵ Subsidy Rolls, 23rd and 13th.

⁷⁶ Pat., 29 Henry VIII., p. 1, m. 23 [Cal.].

⁷⁷ Pat., 32 Henry VIII., p. 8, m. 47 [Cal.].

Culpeper, gentleman of the Privy Chamber, for 21 years. ⁷⁸In 1541 the manor was granted to William Earl of Arundel, at a rent of £3. 17s. 6d. in part exchange for certain manors given by him to the King. ⁷⁹Henry Earl of Arundel exchanged it with other lands to Queen Mary in 1557, and next year it was sold to Thomas Sackville, Esq., in whose family it remained till the time of Charles I., ⁸⁰the Earl of Dorset dying seised thereof in 1624. ⁸¹On the 28th of September, 1643, the Commonwealth seized the estate of Sir George Strode, of Squerries in Kent, which included the manors of Bowley and Downash, ⁸²and in 1649 he petitions the Committee for Compounding for allowance of £100 annuity granted in 1635 to John Nutt and his wife for their lives out of the said manors.

The history of the manor during the next century is obscure, but in 1723 the ⁸³Court Rolls commence: Thomas Fuller, gentleman, was then lord and so continued till about 1745, in which year John Apsley, Esq., held a court; his daughter Cordelia married John Dalrymple, Esq., who was lord in 1778. In 1792 Cordelia Dalrymple, widow, held the manor and was succeeded by her son, John Apsley Dalrymple, Esq., in 1804; his daughter married Morgan Thomas, Esq., who was in possession in 1843, and changed his name to Treherne about 1856. His son, Morgan Dalrymple Treherne, Esq., retired Colonel of Militia, succeeded in 1887 and is the present lord.

A considerable number of names of fields within the manor and of their occupiers may be obtained from the Court Rolls and from the Parliamentary Survey of the Liberty of Pevensey in 1650; the latter document will be given in the next chapter, under the head of the Liberty. The lands in Hailsham are as follows: 1723,

⁷⁸ Pat., 33 Henry VIII., p. 1 [*Cal.*].

⁷⁹ Pedes Finium, 2 and 3 Phil. and Mary Mich. [*Cal.*].

⁸⁰ Add. MSS., 5,681.

⁸¹ "S.A.C.," Vol. XIX.

⁸² Royalist Composition Papers, Series II., Vol. 39.

⁸³ *Penes*, Messrs. Gadsden and Treherne, who kindly gave me access to them.

Henry Pelham, Esq., held two acres of marsh near the Beers, late Jones, formerly Franks, and two acres of marsh called Pages Beer and land called Spiggotts Marsh, late Nicholas Pelham, Esq., and once Wheatleys; this land is still held by the Earl of Chichester and lies between Otham and Peel house, Bere bridge being on the road to Sareland about half a mile below Moorebrook; William Leaves, Esq., held $1\frac{1}{2}$ acre marsh called Bartlett's place at Beer Gate, late Peter Bodle, previously Devinishes and formerly Wades; John Fuller, Esq., held seven acres of marsh called Farthings, which descended to his son and grandson. 1745, Robert Spencer, gent., alienated to Samuel Clark of Hailsham, Fackenham marsh and the Hooks, late Elizabeth Chantler, widow, and formerly Sir John Gage, Bart.; these are the lands mentioned in the survey of Hailsham manor as held of Downash; the Earl of Northampton as heir to the late Earl of Wilmington succeeds to 20 acres in Hailsham called Stony Lands, 18 acres of marsh called Couls (Cool Gate field) at White Dyke, four acres called Jane at Wish at Collins Gutt, five acres of marsh called Ploddys, two acres called Goslings, alias Crambrook, alias Somers Leaze, six acres called Beeches, alias Beer, at Knapsalls Bridge (this bridge is, I think, on "Snapson's Drove," near Horseye) and six acres called Ews Tongue, alias Ewhurst Tongue at Knapsalls Bridge, all of which were late Sir James Lumleys, Bart., and John Tutts, gent., formerly Thomasons and before Hodgsons; these lands were enfranchised in 1831 by Lord and Lady Cavendish. Other names mentioned are: Plattens and Blackwell at White Dyke (in 43 Edward III. ⁸⁴Robert Crop gave to Nicholas Wynnam and Joan his wife two acres called Buddislonde at la Blakewelle in Haylisham within the Liberty of Pevensey) and ⁸⁵Runting Wish, alias Runtingdown Wish (Richard de Runtinton is juror for Dill in reigns of Edward I. and II.; there is a farm called Runtington in Heathfield). Of the manor lands outside the parish the

⁸⁴ Ancient Deeds, C. 1,989.

⁸⁵ Apparently ["S.A.C.," Vol. XL., p. 72] "Remecinges" of Domesday was at a later date called "Runechingiis," in which case it is probably identical with this place.

following may be mentioned : at Horseye the Hope, Kitchen Lands and Chapple Lands (the two latter possibly once possessions of Michelham Priory); at Chilley, Virgins; at Rickney, Little Curry; in Westham, Priest Haws, originally a monastic house whose history is absolutely unknown, later the seat of the family of Thatcher and in 1723 in possession of Thomas Medley, Esq., from whom it descended to the Earl of Liverpool, after whose death it was sold to J. Taylor of Glenleigh; it was enfranchised in 1899 by Lieut. G. J. S. Taylor of Allahabad, the lord of the manor, Col. Treherne, being then resident in Bohemia.

Other names mentioned as being "in Downash" in the Parliamentary Survey are: Dustys, alias Portreeve Hall, the Fleyte, the Willows, Beddinghams, Devenish Wish, Luggeere and the Lewens. This last-named estate formed in itself a small manor, of which Joyesmarsh was held according to the survey of Ersham manor in 1625, and in ⁸⁶1524 Vincent Finche of Sandherst, gentleman, in his will desired "that my manor of Lewens in Haylsham stand in feoffees hands to the performance of my will, that is to say, that if Herbert Finch do interpose and will not suffer my executors to perform my will, then I will that Laurence Lord Abbott of Battle shall order that matter after his discretion; and if he find defective then I will that my feoffees take the profits of those lands by the space of three years, the same to be bestowed according to my will and after those three years, so that he offend no more, to make a state thereof to the said Herbert Finch and his heirs." The only other references that I have found are in the time of Elizabeth. By an ⁸⁷inquisition held 28^o Elizabeth it was found that Peter Woodgate had died seised of the manor of Lewens with its appurtenances and 80 acres of land, meadow, pasture, marsh and wood, belonging to the same manor in the parish of Haylesham, and that the said manor is held of Sir Thomas Sackville, Lord Buckhurst, as of his manor of Downeashe in free socage; Katherine, his wife,

⁸⁶ Nicolas' "*Testamenta Vetusta*."

⁸⁷ Chancery Inquisitions, Vol. 209.

is his executrix and Edmund Woodgate his son and heir, aged 39. ⁸⁸In 1601 John Woodgate, grandson of Peter, claims, through John Lunsforde, his near friend, and obtains this manor and other lands seized wrongfully into the Queen's hands as being held in capite.

Bowley manor lies on the north-east of the parish and extends into Pevensey, Hellingly and Arlington; the portion in Hailsham is not of great extent. It is given in Domesday amongst the Earl of Mortaine's possessions, in the Hundred of Pevensel: "In Bogelie William holds half a hide of the Earl. Earl Herald held them. There is land for 2 ploughs, and there they are with 2 villeins and 1 bordar, and 8 acres of meadow and 4 salterns of 22 shillings and 4 pence. In the time of King Edward it was worth 15 shillings; now 30 shillings. There Ansgot holds of the Earl half a hide, which lay in Burne; it is worth 9 shillings." William was doubtless identical with the William who held Hamelesham; there is nothing to throw light on the half hide belonging to the manor of Eastbourne. In 1085 it was in the hands of Robert Pincerna, of West Dean, from whom it passed to the Sackvilles, in whose family it remained for five centuries and a half. In 1643, as we have seen, the manors of Bowley and Downash were in the hands of Sir George Strode, and they have gone together ever since. The Court Rolls are less frequent and less full than those of Downash and contain little of interest: in 1722 Thomas Clark alienated to Joseph Calverley, gent. (of "The Broad," Hellingly), 20 acres called the Dirtys, late Stonestreets; 1792, Mary Armitage held a parcel of land called Longland by rent of one pound of pepper, formerly Virgoes; in 1831 Lord George Cavendish enfranchised Bodles marsh, Bushie Lands, Causey Bridge and Perry Croft at Horseye, and Sorrell Fields in Hailsham, which he had bought in 1818 of the heirs of Harriet, relict of Thomas Willard. The ⁸⁹Courts about 1850 were held at "the Amberstone house," a cottage opposite to the farm of the same name.

⁸⁸ Fine Roll, 44 Eliz., m. 8.

⁸⁹ The Courts of Downash were held at this time at the "Swan" beershop.

Amberstone itself is a farm close to Magham Down, with a well-built house, apparently some 250 years old, standing back from the road. The "stone" lies in the hedge of the field opposite where it was apparently deposited as a boundary mark. This place is probably the "Hide of Ambefeld" mentioned in the foundation⁹⁰ charter of Otham Abbey [there is an "Amber Field" marked on the Tithe Map near "Cop Hall," but I believe this owes its name to the circumstance of one Ambrose having lived there in the sixteenth century]; Ambeleggh-bridgge, near Hellingly, is mentioned in a⁹¹ rental of Battle Abbey, *c.* 1450. In the⁹² Tenures of the manor of Enlewykes for 1510, under the heading "Details of the Fee of Hertfeild," appears "Humphrey Sakevile for Ombeford in Haylesham, 6^d;" this is evidently meant for Amberstone, as⁹³ "Ombefordstone" occurs in a deed of 1470. Then in 1855 John Gage, Esq.,⁹⁴ grants to John Howell 24 acres of marsh called Ambershall in Haylesham; but in the surveys of 1563 and 1579 the present form of the name is used. In all these forms the syllable "Ambe" is retained and the field in which the stone lies is still called Am field: Amb- or Am- is a root, meaning "about" or "around," and may possibly apply to this estate as being on the rim of a hill at the edge of the marshes; unless, after all, the stone was really a religious monument of pagan days sufficiently important to be regarded as the spot round which the neighbouring lands centred.⁹⁵ At Amberstone House on Sunday, 26th June, 1814, the Emperor of Russia, the King of Prussia and their suites halted on their way to Dover; the farm was at that time in the hands of Samuel Rickman, whose son, born soon afterwards, was, by imperial request, named Alexander.

Magham Down, the northernmost portion of the parish, is a collection of cottages with an iron mission room, built in 1890, and an old inn, whose sign, the Red Lion, is no doubt derived from the arms of the Fiennes of

⁹⁰ Dugdale's "Monasticon."

⁹¹ Aug. Off. Misc. Books, 57.

⁹² Add. MSS., 6,351.

⁹³ Add. Ch., 8,098.

⁹⁴ Pat., 1 and 2 Phil. and Mary, p. 7 [*Cal.*].

⁹⁵ "Our Parish."

Herstmonceux. About 1185 Ralph de Dene granted the ⁹⁶marsh of Megham to Otham Abbey; and in ⁹⁷1263 Robert Lyuet claimed against Adam de Wylesham 36 acres of land in Mekham, which he says Adam holds in right of Benedict de Mekham, who held in villenage of Robert; Adam says that the land belonged to Cecilia his wife, by whom he begot Alexander, at present a minor, in whose right he holds. The family of Lyvet or Levett were for some time associated with this neighbourhood, as will be seen; Wylesham is an alternative name for Magham manor and is regarded by Rev. W. D. Parish as being the Wylesham in Baldeslei Hundred, of Domesday, a manor of considerable importance held by King Edward and containing a church, but with this identification I do not agree. ⁹⁸In 1280 an assize of mort d'ancestor was arraigned by Michael de Loxebech against Robert Lyuet and others *re* marsh land in Megham. ⁹⁹William Maufe in 1287 obtained certain privileges for his tenants of Megham. ¹⁰⁰Gyles de Badelesmere died in 1330 seised of a third of a knight's fee in Megham which John Levett held of the manor of West Dene; this third passed to Margaret, sister and coheir of Gyles, wife of William de Roos of Hamelake; ¹⁰¹the inquisition on the death of Henry Duke of Lancaster held in 1362 shows that he held the fee of Megham; and ¹⁰²in 1370 John de Cokefeld obtained a grant of free warren in Megham.

There are in the British Museum a number of charters of some interest relating to Magham Down, of which the following are translations:

¹⁰³I John le Fader of Megham have granted to Robert Russel a piece of my land called Fytherycroft lying at Megham between the land of Alan de Megham and the land of Robert Twyt and heading on to my land called Pachepette and to the street which leads to the marsh, to be held freely of the lord in chief of the fee, saving to

⁹⁶ Dugdale's "Monasticon." This entry is given correctly in the first edition; but the editor of a later edition, not having heard of Megham and knowing that the abbey was afterwards transplanted to Begham, has "corrected" it into "the marsh of Begham."

⁹⁷ Assize Roll, 912.

⁹⁸ Pat., 8 Edw. I. [*Cal.*].

⁹⁹ Assize Roll, 924.

¹⁰⁰ Add. MSS., 5,681.

¹⁰¹ Inq. p.m., 36 Edw. III. [*Cal.*].

¹⁰² Charter, 43 Edw. III. [*Cal.*].

¹⁰³ Add. Ch., 8,091.

myself and my heirs a sufficient path through the said land for carts and waggons to come and go to my land called Pachepette: he paying therefor yearly to the lord in chief one penny on the Monday called ¹⁰⁴Hokeday: and for this grant Robert has given me 15^s sterling: Witness, William Monser, Peter de Wannemere and others.

¹⁰⁵I John Lyuet have granted to Robert Twyht and Alice his wife one rood of land lying at Megham between the land of John Twyht on the East and my land on the West, and the land of Robert Twyht on the North and the marsh of Francis de Aldeham on the South; at a yearly rent of sixpence: Witness, William Tanner, Robert Russel, Alexander de Buggel, Peter Wannemere and others: Given at Hailesham 15^o Edw. II.

¹⁰⁶I Richard Lyuet have quitclaimed to Matilda relict of William Sandr' of Haylesham all my right in one messuage and a house built thereon and a garden and other appurtenances in Haylesham at Meaham, namely, adjoining the royal street from Herst to Lewes on the North, the land of Margaret Sandr' on the South, the land of Richard Twyt on the East and the street from Meghamiscrouch to Megham marsh on the West, to be held of me and my heirs by the service due therefor and of custom from ancient time rendered: Witness, John Lyuet, Thomas Gyldegge, John Wannemere, Robert Sandr' and others: Given at Haylesham 3^o Henry IV.

¹⁰⁷I Thomas Twyt son of Richard Twyt have granted to Thomas Onstye a messuage and five pieces of land called Twyttys at Megham in the parish of Haylesham which I lately had of the gift of Richard Fotur, Walter Fotur and Thomas Dobbes, to be held of the lords in chief of those fees by the services therefor formerly due and of custom rendered: Witness, John Fakeham, Thomas Wannemer, Michael Heryot, John Sandre' and others: Given at Haylesham 28^o Henry VI.

¹⁰⁸This indenture made 9^o Edw. IV witnesseth that Richard Birchen, Richard Ponte, Richard Turnor and William Hose, feoffees of Richard Wanmer, with the assent of the said Richard, have demised to Robert Crompe a tenement with a garden and land adjacent at Megham called Wannmers containing 12 acres, and two crofts called Marledowne and Byrchedowne containing 5 acres, and a parcel of land called Mellonde containing 10 acres, and a croft at Ombefordstone containing one acre and two crofts of brooky land called le Brokes containing 5 acres, and a croft called Fishecrofte containing 1½ acre; for the term of 8 years

[Seal in black wax, apparently the Pelham buckle.]

¹⁰⁹Richard Wanmer quitclaims the above to Richard Ponte in perpetuity, 14^o Edw IV

¹⁰⁴ Hock Day is the second *Tuesday* after Easter, according to Sims.

¹⁰⁵ Add. Ch., 8,092.

¹⁰⁶ Add. Ch., 8,095.

¹⁰⁷ Add. Ch., 8,097. Fotur flete (or stream), Dobbes marsh and Fackham marsh all occur in the Liberty portion of the parish.

¹⁰⁸ Add. Ch., 8,098.

¹⁰⁹ Add. Ch., 8,100.

¹¹⁰I John Wanmer of Salehurst, son of Thomas Wanmer of Haylesham deceased, have granted to Thomas Oxenbregge of Brède John Cheyne and John Pope all my lands called litell Tanners containing six acres of land and wood in Haylesham adjoining the land called Skobbe on the South and the common hill called Megham Downe on the North and heading on to the royal way from Monttrigge to Megham Downe, to be held of the lords in chief of that fee by the rent and services formerly due therefor: Given at Haylesham 5^o Henry VII

¹¹¹I William Kechynham of Sellescombe have quitclaimed to Thomas Cheyne all my right in the lands called Letyll tanners in Haylesham: Given at Haylesham 3^o Henry VIII

[Seal in black wax, hand between two stars.]

¹¹²I William Twytte have granted to Sir Thomas Fenys Lord Dacre, Goddard Oxenbregge Esq. and Sir Robert Mott chaplain all those lands in Haylesham at Megham I lately held with Thomas Oxenbregge of Brede, William Gyldeberge, and Richard Mylys now deceased by demise of Thomas Altofte late vicar of Haylesham and of John Poteman senior deceased, as appears more fully in a certain charter given at Haylesham 15th Aug. 11^o Henry VII.: Given at Haylesham 11th Aug. 22^o Henry VII.

¹¹³I Sir Thomas Fenys Lord Dacre have granted to Thomas Chaynny gentleman, Giles Fenys gentleman, Roger Shoyswell, Richard Stapley of Twynham and Richard Jeffrey all that my tenement with a garden and seven crofts at Megham in Haillesham; of which two crofts containing 2 acres lie near the tenement and adjoin the land of Lord Dacre called Hallond on the East, the land of Thomas Chaynny formerly Saunders on the South, the land late of the heirs of Richard Berde now of William Broke called Chylleys gardeyn on the West and the royal road from Herstmonceux to Haillesham on the North; and the other 5 crofts, containing 7 acres, lie between the land of Thomas Chaynny called Fishcroft on the East and South, the land of Richard Sackville called Mauncers on the West, the marsh called Megham marsh on the South, the garden of Sir Thomas Fenys called the Rosegardeyn on the North and the land late of the heirs of William Ponte called Pontyslond on the East: Further I have granted to the same all the lands &c which I lately held of the gift of William Twytt with Goddard Oxenbregge Esq. and Robert Mott clerk, who have quitclaimed to me all their right therein: to be held by a rent of 4^s and service at the court called ¹¹⁴Goteham Court and the best beast for herriot and 4^s for relief: Given at Herstmoncex 23^o Henry VII

¹¹⁰ Add. Ch., 8,101.

¹¹¹ Add. Ch., 8,108. Kitchingham is in Ninfield; a John Kechyngham, junior, of Haylesham, husbandman, occurs in the De Banco Roll for Mich., 36^o Henry VI. Tanners is still the name of a field on the N.E. boundary of the parish.

¹¹² Add. Ch., 8,105.

¹¹³ Add. Ch., 8,106.

¹¹⁴ The manor of Gotham only extends a slight way into this parish; it is chiefly noticeable as the place from which the "Wise Men" took their name.

¹¹⁵Same day: Commission of Lord Dacre to John Davy as attorney to give seisin of the above

[Seal in red wax, a scallop shell.]

¹¹⁶9^o Henry VIII Lord Dacre quitclaims the above premises to the aforesaid persons in perpetuity.

[Signed, "per me Willm Fenys:" sealed apparently with the hilt of a dagger.]

¹¹⁷I Robert Twytte of Hoo son of Thomas Twytte late of Haylesham have quitclaimed to Thomas Chayne gentleman, Giles Fenys gentleman, Roger Shoeswell, Richard Staple and Richard Jeffry all my right in the lands at Megham in Haylesham which came to me by the death of my said father: Given 10^o Henry VIII.

Harebeating at present consists of a few cottages and brickfields and a mill; at the time of Domesday it belonged to William de Warrenne: "In Homestreu Hundred Godfrey holds Herbertinges of William. Alnod held it in the time of King Edward, and could go where he pleased. It then vouched for 10 hides and a half. Now for 6 hides, but half a hide is in the Earl of Mortain's rape. There is land for 4 ploughs. In demesne are 2 ploughs and 14 villeins, and 6 bordars with 2 ploughs. There are 17 acres of meadow and wood for 30 hogs. In Lewes 4 haws of 20 pence. In the time of King Edward it was worth 40 shillings and afterwards 50 shillings. Now 60 shillings." The four haws said to be "in Lewes" were probably identical with the "18 acres of land and pasturage for 100 sheep in Herbertingis" given by William de Warrenne to the Priory of Lewes, as recorded in the ¹¹⁸chartulary of that house; and the half hide in the Earl of Mortain's rape was no doubt held by the manor of Hailsham. One Simon de Herbertinges was witness to a charter of Lewes Priory in 1258 and his three ¹¹⁹daughters, Idonea, Johanna and Sarra, are mentioned in connection with Piddinghoe in 1278, where the name also occurs at a later date.

Polegate, the largest of the sub-divisions of the parish, is entirely of modern growth and owes its existence to the

¹¹⁵ Add. Ch., 8,107.

¹¹⁷ Add. Ch., 8,110.

¹¹⁶ Add. Ch., 8,109.

¹¹⁸ "S.A.C.," Vol. XXXV.

¹¹⁹ Assize Roll, 924.

railway junction ; it is a most respectable but uninteresting village, possessing Board Schools, built in 1893, and an Infants' School of earlier date, built in the peculiar style reserved, I am glad to say, for that particular class of building. The pretty little church of St. John, a Chapel-of-Ease to Hailsham, was built in 1876 at a cost of £2,700 ; it is of red brick, faced on the exterior with grey stone, and is distinctly pleasing in effect. Further references to Poolgate or Powlegate, as it is sometimes spelt, will be found in the Chapter on Otham manor. ✓

CHAPTER VII.

WHEN and how the Lowey of Pevensey was formed is uncertain, but it appears to correspond pretty nearly to the Hundred of Pevensel as given in Domesday, and was probably connected with the castle from an early date. When the famous Cinque Ports were founded, in the eleventh century, Hastings was one of them and Pevensey soon became one of the members of Hastings, supplying one ship to the Cinque Ports navy and enjoying in return various privileges, and in these duties and privileges the whole Liberty, or Lowey, had part. These privileges included immunity from the ordinary taxations and to a certain extent from the jurisdiction of the ordinary courts. We have seen that in 1263 Nicholas de Horseye claimed as a member of the Liberty to be exempt from all jurisdiction, except the Shipway, though he was unable to prove his claim by documentary evidence; and this right of trying cases before their own Court was naturally jealously guarded; for instance, in 1278, when ¹²⁰ Mabel, late the wife of Simon le Whyte of Horsye, claims before the Justices in Eyre at Chichester certain land in Haylsham against William de la Done, the Bailiff of the Cinque Ports claims that the land is within his Liberty, and she is accordingly ordered to prosecute in the Liberty court.

*Mabel
Whyte*

In the sixteenth century, and probably earlier, the Liberty was divided into six "Quarters," viz., Pevensey, Westham, Horseye, Manxeye, Otham and Moorbrook; the last named appears for the first time in 1528 and the following is the rental for that year for the Quarters of Otham and Moorbrook — i.e., the Liberty portion of Hailsham parish :

¹²¹ Quarter of Otham = 16^s 2½^d

Richard Renne for Mylfield	10 ^d	John Bray for land late	
the same for Barnetts	3 ^d	Myddylton	1½ ^d

¹²⁰ Assize Roll, 918.

¹²¹ For an opportunity of consulting this book of rentals and the Hundred Court Book of Pevensey I am indebted to the Rev. W. Hudson.

Relict of Richard Bele ..	6 ^d	the same for land in	
Simon Tutt for Grymes ..	5 ^d	Glyndley	4 ^d
Robert Gyles for Hephale	10 ^d	John Wyllard for 24 acres	
Marmaduke Dalton	2 ^d	of land	6 ^d
Thomas Kentysley	4 ^d	Thomas Colyar	4 ^d
John Kentysley	2 ^d	William Ambros	4 ^d
Prior of Michelham for		Abbot of Begham for	
Vellond	—	Ottham	4 ^s 0 ^d
Richard Tutt of Wyllyn-		Edmund Kentysley	1 ^s 4 ^d
don	1 ^s 1 ³ / ₄ ^d	John Howell	
Prior of New Priory for		Thomas Wynswyth } for }	3 ^s 4 ^d
Avereys	7 ^d	in Lamlese and Pykfeld)	
		William Kentysley	8 ^d

Quarter of Morbroke = 1^s 0^s 1^d

Heirs of Wm. Wade for		John Drew	4 ^d
Morbroke	3 ^s 4 ^d	Richard Facher	2 ^d
the same for Bedyng-		Henry Reder	3 ^s 0 ^d
ham	2 ^d	Richard Kirksale	1 ^s 0 ^d
George Roote for Mors and		Henry Smyth	4 ^d
¹²² Knoll	2 ¹ / ₂ ^d	Alan Cokshete	2 ^d
Richard Wydott	2 ^d	Thomas Sparow	2 ^d
John Colyar	2 ^d	Wm. Osborn for Hamonds	
George Roote for Salt-		and others	2 ^s 4 ^d
mersshe	7 ¹ / ₂ ^d	William a Reede	10 ^d
Richard Osborn senior ..	1 ^s 0 ^d	John Edward of London..	4 ^d
Tenants of land called		Richard Mersale for 12	
Lovetts	7 ¹ / ₂ ^d	acres of land	6 ^d
Relict of William A Down	1 ^s 0 ^d	Church of Haylesham for	
Richard Akehurst for mes-		4 acres of land	2 ^d
suage and land late		Same for 3 acres of	
Mersale	4 ¹ / ₂ ^d	land late Kyppyngs....	1 ¹ / ₂ ^d
John Onsty	1 ^s 0 ^d	Church of Westham for 3	
Robert Akeherst for land		acres of land late Kyp-	
late Jurdan	1 ^s 8 ^d	pyngs	1 ¹ / ₂ ^d
Heirs of Alexander Prym-			
myng	2 ^d		

The most interesting points in this rental are the payments of the religious landowners. Although the Abbey of Begham had been dissolved two years before this the Abbot is still returned as holding Otham, and indeed so continues till 1537; and similarly the Prior of Michelham's

¹²² I am inclined to identify this with the "ii hydas terre de Cnolle" given to Lewes Priory by William de Kahannes ("S.A.C.," Vol. XL., p. 72); and this I consider identical with Chenenolle of Domesday: "Ansfrid holds 2 hides of the Earl at Chenenolle. There is land for 2 ploughs. Tochi held them as allodium. In demesne is half a plough, and 1 villain with half a plough and 5 acres of meadow. In the time of King Edward they were worth 40 shillings. Now 15 shillings."

name is found down to 1539, two years after the suppression of that Priory. The New Priory was a house of the Augustinian Order, originally established at Hastings, but subsequently—owing to its being endangered by incursions of the sea—removed to Warbleton, where the remains of the conventual buildings may be still seen; concerning the land held by this priory called Avereys, which lies partly outside the Liberty, there is an interesting entry in the will of John Denyssh (Devenish), Esq., of Hellingly, made in 1477: ¹²³ “I woll that the veray yerly value of all my landes w^t their appurtenances called Averays within the Myle of Pevense be delivered yerely to the sustentacion of A Lampe to burne perpetuelly in the churche of Hellingleigh before the blissed sacrament, and to have an obite in the said churche with viij preeests taking for their labour v^s iiij^d and the vicar of the said churche xij^d to see it be treuly doon and the clerke of the said churche viij^d for syngynge And xij pooer men to have xij pennyworth of bread to pray for my soule and the soules of Margarett and Jane my Wifes and for the soules of my Fader my Moder and all cristen soules, And the Residue of the said yerely value to be kept in a boxe in contentacion if any nede or casualty falle.” The term “the Myle of Pevense” is not common, and taken in conjunction with the fact that the Latin form of Lowey is Leucata, which means a league, would seem to imply that the Lowey was originally all the land within a certain radius—most probably three miles—of the castle of Pevensey.

The two equal portions of land held by the churches of Westham and Haylesham had probably been bequeathed to them by the former owner, Keppyng; and most likely lay in “Kippings marsh,” between Horseye and “Snapson’s Drove,” which belonged to this family certainly as early as 1380, in which year ¹²⁴ Robert Sayere and Margery his wife granted to Simon Wytots and Juliana his wife 3 roods of land in Haylesham in the Lowey of Pevensey in the place called Whytemersh

¹²³ Wattys, 28.

¹²⁴ Add. Ch., 28,286. No doubt “Sayerland” takes its name from one of this family.

(White Dyke), bounded on the east by the land of John Carpenter and John Bokholte (Buckholt in Horseye belonged to the manor of Bowley) and by the land of the said Simon on the west, the land of John Sage to the south and of Richard Keppying to the north. The other portion of land held by the church of Hailsham may have been identical with that assigned by the Archbishop in 1296 for the support of the vicarage; for an account of which see next Chapter.

At the same time that the survey of the bounds of the Borough of Hailsham was made in 1563 a detailed account of the Manor of Pevensey was also compiled, and from this I have extracted the portion referring to Hailsham:

¹²⁵ Manor of Pevensey 1563

Free tenants, called Bonde Porterevetenentes

Heirs of William Abrooke 6 parcels of marsh called Portrevehall in Downeasshe containg 12 acres, lying between Onsties Walle on the West and John Reder's land on the East. 15 ^d for Tallage	6 ^s 3 ^d	} 25 ^s 3 ^d
The same hold freely by charter of 9 ^o Henry VII 5 parcels of marsh in Downeasshe containg 35 acres lying between the land of Sir Richard Sackville kt. on the South, and a certain Rivulet called ¹²⁶ Widiez streame on the North and abutting on little Widiez on the East and Simon Bray's land on the West; late Riders 2 ^s 6 ^d for Tallage	19 ^s 0 ^d	
Nicholas Akeherst holds by charter of 26 ^o Henry VIII a piece of land called the Fryt in Haylesham containg two acres adjacent to the lands of the lord King on South and West and to the lands of Robert Akeherst called Jordans and the lands of Simon A Fennell formerly Downes on the East; late of Robert Akeherst his father. . 2 ^d for Tallage	6 ^d	} 2 ^s 10 ³ / ₄ ^d
The Same holds by charter of 1 ^o Edward VI a parcel called Thetcher's Lande in the parish of Haylesham containing 11 acres adjacent to the lands of the lord King on the South to the lands of Lord Dakers to the North and to the Wall leading to Downeasshe on the East 7 ³ / ₄ ^d for Tallage	2 ^s 4 ³ / ₄ ^d	
John Marshall holds by charter of 3 ^o Edward VI Collinghagge in Haylesham adjacent to the lands called Ershames to the North, to the land called Barnet on the East to the lands of John Cockshoote on the South and North; late Gubbour 1 ^d for Tallage	4 ¹ / ₂ ^d	

¹²⁵ Dy. of Lanc., Misc., Div. xviii., 3.

¹²⁶ Probably withies = osiers.

Christopher Drewe by charter of 22° Henry VII holds a tenement with garden and 3 crofts in Haylesham containing 3½ acres adjacent to his own lands on the East, and to lands called Dineslande on the West	1 ^d for Tallage	8 ^d	} 2 ^s 8 ^d
The same by charter 25° Henry VIII holds a parcel of land in Haylesham containg 6 acres between his own lands on the North and South and the road which leads from the cross called Stonecrosse to Westham on the East and the footpath leading from Haylesham to Bourne on the West; late Rootes	6 ^d for Tallage	2 ^s	
John Thomas holds by charter of 5° Elizabeth a croft called Knolles containing 2 acres adjacent to the land called Moses to the West, and to the lands of Simon A Fenell on the East and the lands of the monastery of Michellham on the South and the lands of Peter Woodgate on the North; in the parish of Haylesham; late Xpher Drewe	1 ^d for Tallage	4 ^d	
Richard Kennesley holds 2 parcels of land called Carpenters containing 8 acres in Haylesham adjacent to lands of Ralph Edwards called Lichberde on Southeast, to the highway between Pevensey and Haylesham on the South, to the lands of Thomas Denam and John Smythson on the West and to the lands late belonging to the fraternity of S ^t John of Estborne to the North and West; late Thomas Snowe and formerly Devenisshe	14½ ^d Tallage	6 ^s 6½ ^d	
John Fawkoner junior holds by charter in right of Elizabeth his wife with Robert and Roger Deane 4 parcels of marsh or pasture called Greatkippings in Downeasshe containing 40 acres adjacent to the public road on the North, to the lands of John Howell and Richard Sackville kt. on the East, and the lands of James Gage Esq. on the South and to the lands of Simon Caffynche on the West; late Richard Affenell	2 ^s for Tallage	18 ^s	
Simon Caffynche holds by charter of 2° Edward VI Kippings in Haylesham containing 5 acres adjacent to a wall leading from the highway to Kippingsgate on the East, to the common watercourse called Kipping's Flete on the South, and to another watercourse leading from Floter Flete between Kippings and Stuntesmarsh on the South West, and to Floter Flete on the North East	7 ^d for Tallage	2 ^s 4 ^d	

Edward Akeherst holds by charter of 22^o Henry VIII
 12 acres in Haylesham called Beeches at Downe-
 asshe adjacent to the Flete called Foterflete and to
 the lands late of the Prior of Michelham on the
 South East 12^d for Tallage } 5^s 0^d

Simon Affenell by charter of 30^o Henry VIII holds
 Alveries in Haylesham containing 36 acres adjacent
 to road called Grenestreate on the West
 also; Seres lande containing 18 acres adjacent
 to the high street leading to Berebridge on the East
 also; Barnetts adjacent to the highway on the
 South East and to the road from Berebridge to
 Haylesham on the West and the lands called
 Irshames on the North 13^d for Tallage } 5^s 0^d

George Snowe holds 16 acres in Devenisshe wysse
 adjacent to high road from Hailsham to Rickney
 on the North

Allan Cockeshoote holds 3 acres called le Brooke

*may be
Cane*
 John Rootes holds Saltemarshe in Moorebrooke
 adjacent to a road called a Droeway leading
from Downeasshe to Moorebrooke on the East,
 and to a Sewar called Saltemershe streame on the
 South, and to the highway leading from Downe-
 asshe to Moorebrooke on the West } $\frac{1}{2}$ ^d

Edward Wade holds Pondefoldefelde in Morebrooke

John Baker kt. holds 4 acres in Rushebrooke in
 Moorebrooke and 3 acres in Kingewysse

The next document that I shall give affords a still
 fuller account of the field names and landowners at the
 date of its compilation, viz., 1650; this is the Parlia-
 mentary Survey of the Manor of Pevensey, of which a
 verbatim transcript is given in "S.A.C.," Vol. XXIV.,
 from which I have condensed the following :

Free Portreeve Rents in Helsham

Sir Thomas Gage of Furle, 15 acres of marsh at Moorebrooke, rent $\frac{1}{2}$ ^d

John Honny of Ditchling gent., land called Levetts in Moore-
 brooke rent $\frac{1}{2}$ ^d

The heirs of Elizabeth Haffenden of Heathfield, land at White
 Dyke late Hamptons 20^d

Portreeve Service Rents

John Akeherst of Crawle in Warbleton gent., a toft barne and orchard in Downeashe and 3 acres of land called the ¹²⁷ Willowes ..			
Rent	6 ^d	Tallage	1 ³ / ₄ ^d
10 acres of land in Downeashe	Rent 11 ¹ / ₄ ^d	Tallage	9 ³ / ₄ ^d
10 acres there called Thistlefeld	Rent 1 ¹ / ₂ ^d	Tallage	14 ¹ / ₄ ^d
1 ¹ / ₂ acre there called the Wall	Rent 1 ¹ / ₂ ^d	Tallage	1 ^d
4 acres called the Fleyte	Rent 1 ^d	Tallage	³ / ₄ ^d
		Total	4 ^s 0 ^d
John Akehurst of Downeashe, 12 acres called Beeches in Downeashe			
Rent	10 ^d	Tallage	10 ^d
10 acres there called Theachers Land ..	Rent 8 ^d	Tallage	7 ^d
		Total	2 ^s 11 ^d
Richard Adams of Lewys gent., one mes- suage a garden two orchards and 4 acres of land called Lambes at Moorebrooke ..			
Rent	8 ^d	Tallage	2 ^d
2 acres there called Mersalls	Rent 3 ³ / ₄ ^d	Tallage	2 ^d
3 acres called Fennells	Rent 1 ^d	Tallage	¹ / ₄ ^d
1 ¹ / ₄ acre called Barnetts	Rent 3 ³ / ₄ ^d		
1 rood called Cutts late Fennells	Rent ³ / ₄ ^d		
¹ / ₂ acre called Osburnes late Salmons	Rent 1 ¹ / ₄ ^d	Tallage	1 ^d
3 acres called Osburnes	Rent 7 ^d	Tallage	1 ¹ / ₂ ^d
1 ¹ / ₂ acre called Osburnes Plodye	Rent 4 ¹ / ₂ ^d	Tallage	2 ^d
1 acre called Osburnes late Pages	Rent 2 ¹ / ₂ ^d	Tallage	1 ¹ / ₂ ^d
1 acre called Osburnes	Rent ³ / ₄ ^d		
4 acres called Osburnes	Rent 1 ¹ / ₂ ^d		
		Total	3 ^s 9 ^d
Thomas Bodle of Helsham, 25 acres called Barnetts in Moorebrooke			
Rent	6 ^s 7 ^d	Tallage	13 ^d
		Total	7 ^s 8 ^d
Stephen French of Chittingly Esq., 12 acres called Luggeere at Downeashe			
Rent	4 ^s	Tallage	8 ^d
12 acres there called Dustys alias Port- reeve Hall	Rent 5 ^s	Tallage	15 ^d
1 acre called Prescotts Marsh in parish of Helsham	Rent ³ / ₄ ^d		
4 acres called Readers in Downeashe ..	Rent 1 ^s 0 ¹ / ₂ ^d	Tallage	4 ³ / ₄ ^d
5 acres called Mosses in Moorebrooke ..	Rent 21 ^d	Tallage	6 ^d
		Total	14 ^s 8 ^d
John Honney of Ditchling gent., 15 acres called Wardes in Moorebrooke			
Rent	3 ^s 10 ^d	Tallage	14 ^d
		Total	5 ^s 0 ^d
Abraham Kenchly of Otham, 5 acres called Bramble Land in Moorebrooke			
Rent	6 ^d		
John Meeres of Greenly, 12 acres called Tanners in Moorebrooke			
Rent	2 ^s 8 ⁵ / ₈ ^d	Tallage	2 ^s
2 ¹ / ₂ acres in parish of Helsham	Rent 2 ³ / ₈ ^d	Tallage	2 ^d
		Total	5 ^s 1 ^d

¹²⁷ Possibly the "little Widiez" of the last survey.

Thomas Meeres, a messuage and 44 acres called the Averyes in Moorebrooke	Rent 7 ^s 6 ^d	Tallage 21 ¹ / ₂ ^d
13 acres called Fennells in Moorebrooke	Rent 2 ^s 5 ¹ / ₂ ^d	Tallage 8 ¹ / ₂ ^d
32 acres called the Reelee in Rushbrooke	Rent 6 ^s 0 ^d	Tallage 8 ^d
		Total 19 ^s 11 ¹ / ₂ ^d
Richard Miller of Chittingly, 16 acres called Brayes Marsh near Downeashe	Rent 3 ^s 8 ^d	Tallage 16 ^d
		Total 5 ^s 0 ^d
Mr Newman of East Grinstead, 24 acres called the Averyes in Moorebrooke	Rent 19 ^s 9 ¹ / ₂ ^d	
The Co-heirs of Thomas Newneham alias Newton of Lindfeild 6 acres called Caffinches Croft at Kipping gate bridge	Rent 1 ^s 9 ^d	Tallage 7 ^d
		Total 2 ^s 4 ^d
Thomas Pim of Helsham, 3 acres called Collinghagg at Moorebrooke	Rent 4 ¹ / ₂ ^d	
Thomas Pettit of Hellingly, 40 acres called Kippings Mersh in Horsye near Downashe and parishes of Helsham and Pevensey .	Rent 16 ^s 0 ^d	Tallage 2 ^s 0 ^d
		Total 18 ^s 0 ^d
John Reade of Helsham, messuage and land called Reedes in Downeashe	Rent 9 ¹ / ₂ ^d	
Sir George Stroude of Westram in Kent knight, 8 acres called Beddinghams in Downeashe	Rent 4 ^s 0 ^d	Tallage 7 ¹ / ₂ ^d
12 acres called Devenish Wish near Downeashe	Rent 2 ^s 0 ^d	Tallage 21 ^d
		Total 8 ^s 4 ¹ / ₂ ^d
John Stapeley of Wootton, 6 acres called Drapers in Helsham	Rent 20 ^d	Tallage 6 ³ / ₄ ^d
23 acres called Drapers in Downeashe in Helsham and Pevensey	Rent 11 ^s 0 ¹ / ₄ ^d	Tallage 23 ^d
26 acres called Drapers in Downeashe in Helsham	Rent 7 ^s 6 ^d	Tallage 2 ^s 1 ^d
1 acre at Downeashe	Rent 5 ^d	Tallage 1 ^d
		Total 25 ^s 3 ^d
William Stonestreete of Helsham, 10 ¹ / ₂ acres called Carpenters in Downeashe	Rent 5 ^s 4 ^d	Tallage 14 ¹ / ₂ ^d
		Total 6 ^s 6 ¹ / ₂ ^d
William Sumner of Hellingly, 18 acres in the White Dyke	Rent 5 ^s 0 ^d	
Barbara and Elizabeth heirs of Miles Thomasin, 5 acres called Martins in Moorebrooke	Rent 7 ¹ / ₂ ^d	
The Co-heirs of John Theacher Esquire, 19 ¹ / ₂ acres called Wades Land at Moorebrooke	Rent 5 ^s 10 ⁵ / ₈ ^d	Tallage 16 ^d
29 acres called Wades land	Rent 3 ^s 8 ⁷ / ₈ ^d	Tallage 2 ^s 2 ^d
		Total 14 ^s 1 ¹ / ₂ ^d

Thomas Weller of Jeevington, 10 acres
called Poundfeild in Moorebrooke... .. Rent 2^s 9^d

Sum total of Portreeve Service Rents in Helsham £8 12 1. ✓

CASTLE OF PEMSEY

Thomas Threle: All those parcels of uplands and marsh lands called the Fry, in Downeashe containing 6 acres 1 rood 27 perches, bounded on the North by the highway from Downeash to Salt Marsh streetes, on the South west by land called Goose Marsh, on the South by marshland called M^r Readers seven acres, and on the East by Plumtree Marshes; now in occupation of John Akeherst of Downeashe: Estimated at £4. 10. 0.

All which parcels we have continued by lease in the hands of the said John Akeherst for one year: and we find upon measurement that these parcels contain more than is claimed by 1 acre 1 rood 27 perches which we estimate at 20^s

All those parcels of land called the Dry Lewyns between Rickney Bridge and Downeashe in parish of Pevensey, bounded on the South by Greenly sewer, on the West by lands called Devenish's Wish and Beddinghams being the lands of Sir George Stroude, on the North and East by the highway from Rickney to Downeash, containing 47 acres 1 rood 17 perches: and an other parcel called the West Lewyns in Helsham bounded on the South west by the highway leading from Rickney to Downash and deviding between the Dry Lewyns and this parcel, on the West and North and Northeast by lands called Luggeers, and on the Southeast by Brayes Marsh, containing 13 acres 10 perches: also two other parcels called the West Lewyns bounded by Luggeers on the South and West, and on the East by Collyers Gutt, containing 14 acres 3 roods 11 perches: estimated at £10.

Also a parcel of land called King Wish in Moorebrook bounded on the West by the highway from Moorebrook to Sealand, on the North by lands called the Foxes, and on the East and South by lands of M^r Newman: and another parcel of land called Rushbrooke bounded on the East by the said highway and on the Southwest and North by lands called Sealands; which two parcels contain 14 acres being parted only by the said highway: estimated at £7.

We find the last mentioned parcels to be let by the Committee of the County for some years past as lands sequestered from Maurice Auberte the late Queen's surgeon who produceth no title to the same: we have therefore granted a lease hereof to James Fennell of Willingdon for one year.

A parcel of land called Kings Acre in Poundsfould in Moorebrooke containing one acre now in tenure of Thomas Weller of Jeevington in the right of John Giles and M^r Benjamin Scarlett who claims by indenture of 27th January 18th Charles wherein William Gillett and Elinor his wife for £60 sold to the said Scarlett and one Richard Crunden all their right in the said parcel and other lands but by what title Gillett and his wife claimed does not appear: Estimated at 21^s

Memorand: that the parcels last mentioned viz. 3 acres in South-lease 4 acres in Heyland Marsh 2 acres near Hurst Haven and 1 acre in Poundfeild were granted by Queen Elizabeth, 14 Dec. 45th year, to Robert Peeterson for 21 years to commence in September 10th James, and the same parcels were granted by King James, 3 Feb. 4th year, to Edward Ferrers for 50 years to commence on determination of the last mentioned lease; of which time there remain 35 years unexpired; paying therefor the reserved rent of 13^s 4^d.

Three parcels of upland and marshland called the Kings Wishes at Moorebrooke bounded on the East by lands of Sir George Stroude, on the South and West by lands called Sealands belonging to M^{rs} Newman, containing 10 acres 2 roods 6 perches now in tenure of James Fennell of Wilmington to whom we have granted a lease for one year: Estimated at £6. 13. 4.

Memorand: that the last mentioned parcels have been possessed by Jennings, Auberte and three of their assignees ever since the first grant of Queen Elizabeth without having any right or title to the same, not being mentioned in any of their grants.

Amongst the lands of the Duchy of Lancaster in the Liberty of Pevensey granted to Lord Portland in 1696 are: ¹²⁸Kingswich in Moorbrook, Rusheybrook near Kingswich, Prestyland alias Seyland, alias Isleland, alias Old Land, lands lately found in John Threele's occupation, and Pondfield in Moorbrook. A long list of field names and landowners in 1780 will be found in Chapter X., and various references to places mentioned in the foregoing surveys will be found throughout the book, more especially in the Chapter on Otham; it only remains to mention the eighteenth century Court Book of Pevensey Hundred. The entries in this are mostly of an uninteresting nature, referring mainly to presentments for keeping up roads; *e.g.*, 1702, the Parish of Hailsham presented for not repairing the Highways from Marland Bridge to Lambs marsh; 1708, a wain bridge on the Queen's Highway from Glynley to Hailsham is very dilapidated and the inhabitants of Hailsham are notified to repair it; 1722, John Chantler, yeoman, presented for not making hedges on the road from Morbrooke to Hailsham Common.

Willingdon manor we have already seen mentioned in the 1625 Survey of Ershams, alias Hailsham, three

parcels being held of it. The first of these parcels is "Joyes house and one croft;" this may very likely be identical with the house mentioned in an ¹²⁹inquisition held in 1420 by William Alysaundre, deputy of Sir Walter Hungerford, Chief Steward of the Duchy of Lancaster in the South, concerning waste caused by Sir John Pelham, Warden of Pevensey Castle and grantee of the Honor of Aquila; under the heading Wylyndon: "he has caused waste in allowing the Sollar of the chapel in the Dongean of the Castle of Pevensey to be out of repair and dilapidated to the extent of 5^s; and in allowing the wooden bridge before the Dongeon to be ruinous and 'in plankys supra dictum pontem precii vj^s viij^d esse discoopertum;' and in allowing a house which John Kychyn holds of John Pelham according to the custom of the manor in Haylesham to be ruinous and unthatched (*discoopertam*, stripped of its covering) to the extent of 10^s." I presume "the manor" is that of Willingdon, as it occurs under that head amongst other references to Willingdon, but I do not understand why the Castle of Pevensey should be mentioned here. The notice of the chapel¹³⁰ is interesting and is the only reference to its fabric that I remember to have seen; and the application of the term Dongean to the Norman Castle shows that the old Roman walls were still considered the castle proper and the later building regarded as the keep. In the ¹³¹account of Thomas de Leem, reeve of Wyllendone for 1283, are several references to Iverikesham, which I have in an earlier chapter identified with Ersham. "Received from the tenement of Yverikkesham 40^s. Item, paid to the hundred silver for the land of Yverikesham 2^d:" and another entry the meaning of which is not quite obvious: "Acquit' defcō—in Defcū operum terr' de Yverikkesham 12½^d." Ducange gives two interpretations of "opera," either of which suit fairly well; first, service due from a vassal to his lord, forced labour, *corvée*, or secondly, payment towards the maintenance

¹²⁹ Dy. of Lanc. Inq., Vol. II., 10.

¹³⁰ For an account of the excavation of this chapel see "S.A.C.," Vol. VI.

¹³¹ Orig. Min. Accts., 1031-16.

of a church. Now in the rental of Otham Abbey, about 1200, is an entry to the effect that they pay for the manor of Otham 12d. to the church of Willendon; so that I am inclined to give it the second meaning. In the account of James Scherreve, reeve of Wyllendone for 1286, the rent "received for the lease of the tenement of Iverikkesham" is 46s. 8d., but in the accounts of his successor, William de Estacre, for 1287 to 1289 the name does not occur.

In a survey of Willingdon manor in 1564 five parcels of land are mentioned in the parish of Hailsham; of these four are, as would be expected, at the south of the parish, but one—"Omforde"—is in the north, at Amberstone, as is shown both by the bounds and the name, for we have already seen that in 1510 Amberstone is called "Ombeford," being at that time held by Humphrey Sackville of the Fee of Hertfield.

¹⁸²Survey of Manor of Willingdon 1564.

John A Rede holds freely by charter of 1 st Dec. 27 ^o Henry VIII 15 acres of land in Haylesham adjoining the King's highway leading from Downeasshe to Willingdowne and the lands of Simon Affenell towards the South, the lands of William Sheperde to the North, the lands of John Rootes to the West, and the lands of Nicholas Akeherst to the East, paying	3 ^s 2 ^d
Richard Sackville knight holds by charter a tenement called Omforde containing by estimation 60 acres adjoining the lands of Alexander Tutt in Haylesham to the South, the Common Stream leading to Spindell bridge to the East and North, and the highway to the West	7½ ^d
William Shepherde holds by charter of 27 ^o Henry VIII a tenement called Well croftes containing 15 acres, lying in Haylesham adjoining the lands of the heirs of John Honnstye to the South, the King's highway to the East, the lands of Peter Coker and John Waresdeane and William Edwardes to the North, the lands of John Rootes to the West	10 ^s
Also a parcel of land called Hodieland containing 20 acres adjoining the high road to the East, the lands of John Rootes and of the heirs of Honnstye to the North, the lands of John Rootes and of the heirs of Rede to the West and the lands of Lord Dakers to the South	

¹⁸² Penes, Messrs. Hunt, Currey & Nicholson, who kindly produced it for me.

Simon Affenell holds by copy of court roll 18 ^o Henry VIII	} 9 ^s 10 ^d
55 acres of land late of Thomas Amilton and Ursula his	
wife called Vinalls. And also 55 acres of land in Hayle-	
sham called Mannslode late of Thomas Middelton adjoining	
the King's highway from Swyneshill to Haylesham on the	
West, the highway and the lands of Allan Cockshott on	
the North and East, and the lands of Richard Kenchley	
on the South	

Amongst the Court Rolls in the Record Office are the ¹³³rolls of four Sheriff's Tourns held at the Court of Ludley in the time of Elizabeth, apparently for the whole Honor of Aquila. At each of these Tourns Haylsham is represented by a headborough and four tithing men; at the Courts held in 18th and 19th Elizabeth the jury of Dyll make no presentments, but at that of 30th Elizabeth "the twenty-four of Flexborough" present, amongst other things, that: The tenants of the land called Manninges in Haylesham have not made their ditches between Amberstone and Megham Downe beyond Seedingelegge: Richard Kenslye has not drawn off the water from the Queen's highway nor made his ditches on the highway near Swynes: William Fayerway has obstructed the footway leading from the six acres to Whelplye Bridge: the inhabitants of Hailsham and Arlington have not put down three wooden gutters called gutts in the Queen's highway between the Hawke of Mylton and Haylesham as they were ordered to do, so are fined 3s. 4d. and are to put down the said gutters as far as is necessary before next court under penalty of 40s. The Hawke, or Hake as it is more often called, is the open common, now called Milton Hide.

Two other manors occur incidentally in connection with Hailsham. In a ¹³⁴survey of Lord Burgavenny's manors, made in 1622, under the head of Radmell Beverington (an Eastbourne manor):

Heirs of John Butcher of Ninfeld hold by service one half of	} 6 ^d
the land called Hawkes in Haylesham: 25 acres	
John and Thomas Crunden hold by service the other half of the	} 6 ^d
said lands containing 25 acres in Haylesham and Hellingly..	

¹³³ Court Rolls, 126, 1884.¹³⁴ Add. MSS., 5,705.

The other reference occurs in the ¹⁸⁵ Royalist Composition Papers, where Edward Earl of Dorset is returned as holding "certain lands in Halsham perquisites of the courts within the Forrest of Ashdowne;" where or what these lands were I do not know, unless they corresponded to the Fee of Hertfeild, in which case they would be at Amberstone.

Of the religious communities that held land in Hailsham the most important, with the exception of the convents of Otham and Michelham, which will be dealt with in special sections, was the Abbey of Battle. The property of this great house in Hailsham and Hellingly formed part of its manor of Alciston and stretched right across the two parishes at their junction, dividing the Hundred of Dill into two portions. Several references to these lands will be found in the account of Michelham Priory; the following notes are from a Rental of Battle Abbey about 1450:

¹⁸⁶ Alcyston:

Lands of William atte Wode of the Fee of the Abbot of Begham called Bernetlond bounded by the lane leading from le Pykegate to the land called le Bernet. [Barnets, adjoining Long Ershams on the S.W. and the road from Downash to Moorbrook.]

Lands in Haylesham and Erlyngton called Sell londs held by John Potter¹⁸⁷ and a tenement and certain lands adjacent called Dunsynges formerly of Ralph Gardyner in Haylesham and hundred of Alciston bounded by King's highway from le Lepecrouche [Leap Cross] to le Knockheche to N.W., by land of Richard Page formerly of Robert Grove of the Fee of Wylmyngton to E., and by land of Prior of Michelham called Caldeburgh to S.: rent, at the Feast of the Annunciation 12^d and at Michaelmas 12^d

The same John holds, Gretebromefeld in Haylesham and Erlyngton bounded by Thomas Crowcher's lands of Hempsted and by his own lands to N.E. and by the land of Hempsted to S. and W., and by the road from le Lepecrouche to le Knockheche to E.

Thomas Croucher and John Vynch hold land called le Whitelond in Haylesham where is a piece of land in which is a certain great pit called Marlepette lying near the land of the said Thomas and John

¹⁸⁵ Series II., Vol. 20.

¹⁸⁶ Aug. Off., Misc. Books, 57.

¹⁸⁷ Bodleian; Sussex Charters, 85: "John Pottere of Haylesham gives to John Fackham, Richard Page, John Blakstok and Thomas atte Wode all his lands in Haylesham and Erlington except those held of the manor of Alston "ad voluntatem domini."

called le Whitelondfeld of the fee of the prebend of Hempstede and adjoining a portion of same field which is of the fee of the Abbot of Battle and part of la Whitelond to N., and the road from la lepecrouche to le Knokkehecche to S. and abutting of the land of Hempstede to W. Also 2 acres of land adjoining the land of Hempstede called le Gosecroft and the land of the Prior of Mychelham called le lepelond to N.E., and the said land in which is the Marlepette to W., and the said highroad to S., and the Whitelondfeld to N.: rent, at Feast of the Annunciation 12^d, Michaelmas 12^d.

The Prior of Michelham holds lands in Haylesham called Caldeburgh [Coolbrook] adjoining the high road from le Lepecrouche to le Knokkehecche to N.W. on the one side, and the land of John Nicholas formerly of Richard Cowden of the fee of Wylmyngton called Lammerslond and the land of Simon Widoth called Buskehey [Bushey Field] to S.E. on the other side, abutting on a water course leading from le buskehey to le Notebrigge and thence to the bank of S(t)erne on S.W. and the land of John Potter of the demesne fee on N.E.; rent, at Easter 2^s 6^d and at Michaelmas 2^s 6^d, and heriot when it occurs 13^s 4^d and relief and court service to the manor of Alciston; and holds freely.

[From a Rental about 1520:]

¹⁸⁸ Haylesham.

Heirs of Richard Profote hold certain land with buildings on it called Densings lately Profote's formerly John Potter's	12 ^d
Also, Whitelands lately Profote's formerly Thomas Crowcher's and John Fynche's	12 ^d
The Prior of Michelham holds freely land called Caldeburgh and owes for heriot when it occurs	13 ^s 4 ^d
and for court service	2 ^s 6 ^d

Besides the above there is a survey of the manor of Alciston in Lord Gage's Manor Book of 1625, from which I have extracted the portion headed "Hailsham parish;" it appears, however, to also contain land in Arlington, as for instance Starnash, but the greater part is no doubt Hailsham.

ALCYSTON.

¹⁸⁹ Hease. The Diker. Hailsham Parish.

Edward Akers (George 1626 [Robert 1641] Crowhurst) for a tenement containing 7 acres called Dunsings late Thomas Abrooke and before John Potter: bond tenure 1 her. yearly rent of	2 ^s
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¹⁸⁸ Rentals and Surveys, 642.

¹⁸⁹ "John Elphege and formerly Henry his father held Southese adjoining the bank leading from Ambelegghisbrigge to Hellingleggh on the South, and the demesne land called Scoperedes on the East." Aug. Off., Misc. Books, 57.

Edward Awsten (now Robert Freeman) for a cottage and 2 acres of land late Barbara Parker and before Robert Read: bond tenure 1 her. yearly rent	2 ^s
John Bodle (John Hompden [now Thomas Haris]) for a cottage and 3 crofts called Plenties late Richard Grayes: bond tenure 1 her. rente of	3 ^s 4 ^d
For a parcell of land called Canes to the other land adjoining: bond tenure 1 her. yearly rent	12 ^d
James Benton (Harbart Wenham) for a cottage and close containing by estimacon 2 acres called Harmans: bond tenure 1 her. yearly rent	12 ^d
George Dawes (Fran: Botting) in the right of his wife for a tenement and 5 acres called Sternasshe late Richard Readers: bond tenure 1 her. yearly rent	3 ^s 2 ^d
Robert Fowler for a cottage and 1 acre of land late Edward Austens: bond tenure 1 her. yearly rent	12 ^d
Richard Fuller an infant for a cottage and 2 acres some- time Richard Rolfs; bond tenure 1 her. yearly rent ..	12 ^d
John Gratwick (Henry Chapman) for a cottage and 4 acres late John Awsten and before Stockles: bond tenure 1 her. yearly rent	4 ^s
Ralfe Mousehurst for a cottage and 2 acres called Mole- cocks late John Readers and before Newmans: bond tenure 1 herriet yearly rent	9 ^d
Edward Mephram for a cottage under Abbots Wood: bond tenure 1 her. yearly rent	2 ^d [pulled down]
Edward Hemsley (widow Ades) for a cottage parcell of Canes late Alice Paynes: bond tenure 1 her. yearly rent	8 ^d
Stephen (Dorothie) Stone for a cottage and one acre of land late Henry Funnell and before John Woodsell: bond tenure 1 herriet yearly rent	16 ^d
And <i>in the right of his wife</i> for a cottage newly erected upon the Lord's Waste: yearly rent	6 ^d [pulled down]
Zealous Stone widdow for a cottage and 4 acres of land sometime Holebeames and after Much Mercy Rowfe: bond tenure 1 her. yearly rent	4 ^s 5 ^d
And 2 acres late William Readers: bond tenure 1 her. yearly rent	16 ^d
Harbert Wenham for a cottage taken out of Readers land: bond tenure 1 her. yearly rent	2 ^d
Stephen Wenham (Mathew Richards) for a cottage and 5 acres of land late William Greenfield and before Bodles: bond tenure 1 her. yearly rent	2 ^s 8 ^d
There is paid unto the Lord yearly in the Burrowe for Common Fine	2 ^s
Sum in this whole Burrowe	

Hease Borrow

John Alchorne and Fuller }	for a tenement and lands in Haylesham called Dunsynges	} 2 ^s 6 ^d
	and for a tenement and divers parcells of Freeland and pasture lying in unto the lands of Michellham and Hempsteed sometyme known by the name of Whitlands sometime Thomas Crowches	

Of the other Sussex monasteries in the neighbourhood Lewes appears to have held only the land at Harebeating, which we have already seen was granted to them by William de Warrenne. The alien priory of Wilmington, a cell of the Norman Abbey of Grestein, had a slight connection with Hailsham: ¹⁴⁰“Adam Cuk gives to Wilmington a rent of 12^d which Thomas the smith of Heylesham used to pay him for a tenement there, and a rent of 4^d from the Mill of Eylesham, and 4^d rent which William Sotharin paid him for a tenement there. And Richard son of Adam le Cuke quitclaimed all his right in the lands and houses which Adam his father held of the said convent in Heylesham.” This appears to be the only property held by this priory within the parish and even this does not appear in any of the later extents of the monastery, ¹⁴¹one of which was made at Haylesham in 1371 before John de Bisshopstone the King’s escheator. The New Priory of Hastings we have seen held Avereys in Otham Quarter; and the Royal Free Chapel or College of St. Mary in the Castle of Hastings also held a little land here, the prebend of Hugh de Flescis (or de Flocer) being endowed by Walter, son of Lambert (or Fitz-Lambert) with ¹⁴²“the tithes of all his lands and one hostry in Helesham,” of which I find no further mention.

In 1313 ¹⁴³an inquisition was held at Lewes, in which the jurors say that it is not to the King’s detriment to allow Henry Garlaund to give “a messuage and 50 acres of land

¹⁴⁰ Dugdale’s “Monasticon.”

¹⁴¹ Add. MSS., 6,164.

¹⁴² Chancery Misc. Rolls, 4th. Mr. C. Dawson has pointed out to me that in Doomesday one Hugh held Flescinges, while the other variety of the name appears in the Geoffry de Floe, who held land in Gestelinges.

¹⁴³ Inq. p.m., 7 Edw. II., 52.

in Hailsham to the Dean and Chapter of Chichester to support a chaplain to say service daily for his soul and the souls of all Christian men; and that the land is held in chief of the King as of the Barony of Aquila, which came into the hands of King Edward I. by the death of his mother Eleanor, by fealty and service of 20s. 10d., and the true value is 20s. 8^d." The land thus given was apparently Groveland, not far from Leap Cross, as in the ¹⁴⁴valuation of Chichester Deanery in 1537 is entered: "Lease of certain lands in Helsham called Grovelonds in the tenure of Peter Snowe who pays per annum 20s." Having been given for "superstitious uses" it was no doubt seized by the Crown; at any rate in the 1625 Rental of Hailsham manor Grovelands appears without any mention of the Dean of Chichester.

It only remains to mention a Chantry in Winchelsea: ¹⁴⁵In 1478 Matilda Farnecombe endowed a chantry in the church of St. Thomas at Winchelsey with certain lands, of which no details are given in the inquisition, in Haylesham and adjacent parishes. Amongst the ¹⁴⁶Battle Abbey deeds is one of 1477, by which Matilda Farnecombe, widow, is enfeoffed of Hankeham in Westham, Haylesham, Mankesey and Horseye; and on the suppression of chantries by Edward VI. the ¹⁴⁷possessions of "Godfrey's Chantry" in Winchelsea include Hankeham lands, and amongst the reprises are "Rent resolute to our Lord the King issuing out of lands in Westeham Pemsey and Halesham in the tenure of John Senocke, 4s 2^d; rent resolute to Earl of Arundel from the same land, 2s 0½^d."

This concludes our account of the divisions of the parish, into the composition of which we have seen that fourteen manors and nine religious communities enter! We now turn to the history of the church. ✓

¹⁴⁴ "Valor Ecclesiasticus."

¹⁴⁶ Thorpe's Catalogue.

¹⁴⁵ Inq. ad q. d., 17 Edw. IV., 62.

¹⁴⁷ "S.A.C.," Vol. XXIII.





Photograph by

E. I. Baker.

HAILSHAM CHURCH. — THE CHANCEL.

CHAPTER VIII.

The date and circumstances of the foundation of the church of Haylesham are still uncertain, and will be more easily considered after the consideration of its early history. The first reference that we have to it is in 1279, when "Gilbert de Aquila" incurred the advowson of the church of Haylesham upon his newly founded priory of Walsingham. "In 1284 the Pope granted a dispensation to Richard Archbishop of St. Clement's to hold the church of Haylesham besides his archidiaconary and a vicarage of 22 souls in the Church of Walsingham, and a vicarage of 22 souls in the Church of Chichester. The grant of a vicarage to a church so far from the seat of his archidiaconry may have been merely a coincidence, but it is worth noting that one Jordan was Abbot of Walsingham, at least until about 1220—of Bayham. Did he have been translated from Bayham to the Archidiaconry of St. Clement's?"

When we next catch sight of the church the great law suit, or series of suits, between the Abbey of Bayham and the Priory of Mychelham and the Rector of Haylesham for possession of the church is in full swing. "In 1279 the Abbot of Bayham was summoned to answer to the King wherefore, when all pleas concerning the advowsons of churches belong to the Crown and to no other court within the kingdom, he prosecuted a plea concerning the advowson of the church of Haylesham in Court Christian to the detriment of the Crown, and Richard de Gloucestre, who prosecuted for the King, says that the said Abbot on St. Clement's Day in the 8th year of the King's reign brought an action concerning the said advowson against the Prior of Mychelham before Edmund de Ba, commissary of the Abbot of Lomenys, in the Church of St. Mary of Suthwerk, and the Prior brought against him on that day the royal prohibition against proceeding

¹²⁷ *Pat.*, 17th Henry III.

¹²⁸ *Chronicle of Papal Letters*, Vol. I.

¹²⁹ *De Benef.*, 20.



E. J. Lister

NAILSHAM CHURCH.—THE CHANCEL.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE date and circumstances of the foundation of the church of Hailsham are alike uncertain and will be more easily considered after the examination of its early history. The first reference that we have to it is in 1229, when ¹⁴⁸ Gilbert de Aquila bestowed the advowson of the church of Haylesham upon his newly founded priory of Michelham. ¹⁴⁹ In 1238 the Pope granted a dispensation to Jordan Archdeacon of St. David's to hold one additional benefice besides the archdeaconry and a yearly pension of 12 marcs in the Church of Helesham in the diocese of Chichester. The grant of a pension in a church so very remote from the seat of his office is curious; it may have been merely a coincidence, but it is worth noting that one Jordan was Abbot of Ottenham, and subsequently—till about 1220—of Bayham. Can he have been translated from Bayham to the Archdeaconry of St. David's?

When we next catch sight of the church the great law suit, or series of suits, between the Abbey of Bayham and the Priory of Michelham and the Rector of Hailsham for possession of the church is in full swing. ¹⁵⁰ In 1279 the Abbot of Begeham was summoned to answer to the King wherefore, when all pleas concerning the advowsons of churches belong to the Crown and to no other court within the kingdom, he prosecuted a plea concerning the advowson of the church of Haylesham in Court Christian to the detriment of the Crown, and Richard de Gosefeud, who prosecuted for the King, says that the said Abbot on St. Clement's Day in the 6th year of the King's reign brought an action concerning the said advowson against the Prior of Mychelham before Edmund de Ba, commissary of the Abbot of Lesenys, in the Church of St. Mary of Suthwerk, and the Prior brought against him on that day the royal prohibition against proceeding

¹⁴⁸ Pat., 13^o Henry III.

¹⁴⁹ Calendar of Papal Letters, Vol. I.

¹⁵⁰ De Banco, 36.

further in that suit, but the Abbot in contempt of the prohibition continued his action in the said court. And the Abbot, who was represented by Robert de la Downe, denies entirely that on the said day he prosecuted a plea concerning the adowson contrary to the said prohibition, and on this he appeals to jury. So the Sheriff is ordered to summon within a month of Easter 12 men who are in no way connected with the said Abbot, &c. Afterwards, in the Octaves of St. John Baptist the Sheriff summoned 12 men, but they were poor men and not qualified; so request is made that the Sheriff shall summon in the Octaves of St. Martin 12 other men, of whom six shall be knights girt with a sword (*i.e.*, knights banneret). What the result of this case was is not shown, but in 1282 the Abbot appears to have again appealed to the same court, as there is a very mutilated ¹⁵¹deed in the Bodleian of this date which appears to be a decision of the Archdeacon of Southwark against the Prior of Michelham; and there are also one or two similar ¹⁵²deeds without date, probably of the same period, to the same effect. The Prior, however, or rather Robert de Blatchington, who was then rector of the church, appealed to Canterbury and recovered possession for two or three years, at the end of which time the Abbot seems to have executed a *coup d'état* and seized the church by force, occasioning the following letter from the Archbishop of Canterbury to the King:

¹⁵³The Abbot and convent of Begeham, having with unheard of guile intruded themselves into the church of Halesham, had been ejected and Master Robert de Blechington, rector there "ab antiquo," had been replaced by decree of the Archbishop's court and had held the church for some years without opposition. But the said Abbot and convent violently expelled the said rector and, laying aside the fear of God, secretly and sacrilegiously intruded themselves into the said church, contrary to the sentence and decree of the court. And they were excommunicated and penalised as far as the church of Canterbury had power; yet they continued in their sacrilege answering the Archbishop's sentences with unheard of blasphemies; moreover they intend to place their Recorder in possession of the position that

¹⁵¹ Sussex Charters, 166.

¹⁵² Sussex Rolls, 4.

¹⁵³ Prynn's "History of the Pope's Intollerable Usurpations," p. 355.

they have gained by sacrilege, defending their position with a false and hypocritical appearance of religion, and with armed force retain the church thus profaned, to the great weakening of all church discipline. As therefore the canonical power has failed the king is humbly implored to cause them to be ejected by lay power and force and to restore the said Robert and protect and defend him with the royal authority, so that the judgement of the church may not be brought into contempt.

Given at South Malling March 1286.

The immediate result of which is shown by an entry on the Assize Roll of 1288:

¹⁵⁴Presentments made by knights.

The Jury present that in the — year of the present King's reign when the Abbot of Begehame was in possession of the church of Heylesham and had the King's protection, the Prior of Michelhamme with Henry de Guldeford his canon, Master Robert de Blechynton, Robert de Berdewyk, Laurence de la Toune vicar of Heylesham, William le Rede of Ferles, John le Clerk of Heylesham, Richard Goldyng, John de Horse, Richard de Runtyngton and others came with force of arms to the said church of Heylesham and entered into it and assaulted the men of the same Abbot who were in the church, against the King's peace and in defiance of the King's protection. And the Prior and the others came and deny any breach of the peace: and they say that the church of Heylesham is in the patronage of the same Prior, and that the aforesaid Master Robert was parson of the church; and that Robert had been ejected by the Abbot and his men and that the same Robert by a suit held thereupon in the Court of Canterbury between him and the Abbot had by a definitive decision recovered possession of the same. And they say that the said Robert had obtained a writ of the King's Coroner for the county for the removal of lay power from the said church, and that the said Prior and his canon and certain others with him came to see and bear witness to Master Robert's claim of possession and to enforce it by the Archbishop's authority; and the others who came there came for the removal of the lay power as aforesaid: and he requests that enquiry be made into the truth of his statement.

And the Jury state on their oath that the said Master Robert did recover possession of the church against the Abbot in the Court of Canterbury by a definitive decision.

The date of this ejectment is not given, but was probably 1287 at latest; at any rate ¹⁵⁵on Wednesday after the Feast of St. Gregory (March 12th), 1288, Richard Abbot of Begham sends greeting to Gilbert Bishop of Chichester and presents "to the vicarage of Haylesham now vacant our beloved in Christ Dom.

¹⁵⁴ Assize Roll, 924.

¹⁵⁵ Add. MSS., 6,307.

William de Temple." However, matters went on for another eight years with probably constant fighting in the law courts, if not in the church, first one party winning and then the other; Robert de Blachington had died and Bogo de Clare, "a most insatiable pluralist," had succeeded him; fresh actions were about to be brought, when at last it was agreed to submit the matter to the Archbishop's personal arbitration, and in 1296, after twenty years of litigation, he settles the matter finally, and his elaborate and interesting award I give here in full:

¹⁵⁶There having arisen some time since litigation between the Abbat and convent of the monastery of Begeham of the diocese of Chichester on the one part, and Master Robert de Blechendon on the other part, concerning the church or chapel of Haylesham which the said monks declare to be a chapel of the church of Hellynggeleye, which is appropriated to them, and dependent thereon, which the said Robert denies asserting that he himself is Rector of the same church of Haylesham: and there having been many different lawsuits instituted between them and at first the same Robert and after him Dom. Bogo de Clare who after the death of the same Robert held the before-mentioned church of Haylesham: and the said lawsuits still continuing undecided: the same monks holding the said church of Haylesham to be a chapel of their church of Hellynggeleye as mentioned above, on the one part, and our venerable brother Gilbert Bishop of Chichester firmly asserting that the frequently mentioned church of Haylesham, as being of old time a mother church of the parish, should be governed by a secular Rector, on the other part, fresh actions were pending in the Court of Canterbury but the same parties taking wiser counsel and agreeing that it were right peaceably to obtain a proper declaration and decision on the premised points and the condition of the said church, they in this matter submitted themselves entirely to our definitive decision and produced letters of submission and renunciation both on behalf of the said monks for themselves and their successors and on behalf of the said Bishop for himself and his successors, with their seals affixed alternately. . . . We, having examined the evidence decree, announce, definitively declare and ordain as follows.

First: that the said church of Haylesham with all the rights and privileges appertaining to the Rectory thereof, as being a chapel of the aforesaid church of Hellynggeleye and dependant thereon shall remain for the future in the perpetual possession of the said Abbot, convent, and monastery of Begeham for their own profit in their full right; and the same church or chapel of Haylesham we fully and entirely appropriate to them, saving a perpetual vicarage in the said chapel. And concerning the vicarage we ordain: that the vicar who is now in the said church and his successors for ever shall fully receive

all the oblations made in the church, all the obventions of the altar of the same, that is, all the small tithes of the parish of milk, wool, lambs, calves, geese, pigs, mills, hay, herbage, pasture, pannage, gardens, orchards, bees, doves, merchandise, wood, timber, hunting, and from all crofts or closes in the same parish which are tilled with the feet or with hand instruments by the hands of either men or women as in messuages or in gardens in curtilages, saving to the Abbot and convent of Begeham all privileges of freedom from tithes according to their privileges, and custom formerly observed. Also the same monks as being Rectors of the same chapel of Haylesham shall be subject to the ordinaries. Also the vicar shall receive the mortuary dues and chief legacies of the parishioners of the same chapel and all other lesser obventions of the same parish which have hitherto belonged by custom and use of the parish to the same church, and which the vicars or rectors of that place have been wont to receive in right of the rectory or vicarage; excepting the greater tithes issuing from the lands of the same parish tilled with ploughs or animals, exclusive of the greater tithes of the undermentioned lands which are assigned to the augmentation of the vicarage and exclusive of the manse belonging to the rectory of the same church or chapel of Haylesham and the houses connected with the same and the demesne lands belonging to the rectory; and these greater tithes of corn, the manse and buildings of the rectory, and the demesne lands of the rectory shall remain in perpetuity to the said Abbot and Convent of Begeham for their own proper use, excepting a certain portion of the land of the said rectory manse which we assign to the said vicar and his successors for curtilage and garden. Further as we consider that the portions assigned as aforesaid to the vicar do not suffice to cover his expenses We assign to the said vicar in perpetual augmentation of the said vicarage all the greater tithes arising from certain land in the parish of Haylesham which is called La Brok; which land extends from the North from Meystreshecch by the royal highway to Pludygate and its boundary passes from Pludygate between the Merslonde and the Marledelonde to the house of Walter atte Walle being inclosed by the ditch, and from the said place to the house of William atte Walle being bounded by the road, and from the house of the same William to the watercourse called Heldhevene and by the said course on the South to the house of Richard le Coper passing round the land of William le Lunghe and from the house of Richard le Coper to the bridge called Berebregge, and from the said bridge to the land of Symon de la Hothe being bounded by the watercourse, and from the land of the said Simon to the street which leads from Berebruchestruche towards the Maystreheche as the boundary runs between the land of the said Simon and the land of Walter de Mereshale, and so by the said street to Maystreshecch from the West.

Moreover, whoever is vicar there shall maintain at his own costs a second priest skilled in singing and reading to assist him in the service of the said church and in his parish work. Also, the same vicar shall provide wax for lights round the great altar: also wine and bread sufficient on Easterday: also wine and bread for Celebrations in the said church throughout the year; also incense for censuring.

The Abbot and convent of Begham shall keep up the granges and other buildings of the rectory in a decent state at their own expense. And they shall cause the greater tithes issuing from the aforesaid demesne lands of the rectory to be stored in the same granges, and no where else, and to be thrashed there, under penalty of the ¹⁵⁷*greater excommunication* loss of the same benefice, if they in any way act otherwise. And the same monks shall also at their own cost repair the chancel of the aforesaid church of Haylesham as often as it shall so require, and if it be entirely fallen down shall rebuild it. The monks shall also provide in the same church books and fitting ornaments as often as there shall be occasion; and the vicar shall carefully keep the same under sufficient protection at his own risk, except in the case of accidents to which the vicar's negligence is not contributory, and shall undertake at his own cost small repairs of the books and ornaments, that is to say, the binding and covering of the books and washing and mending of torn vestments.

The vicar also shall provide rushes in summer, and the monks straw in winter for the said church and its chancel. Further the vicar shall support all the ordinary expenses of the church as regards the episcopal and archidiaconal rights in the same. But the monks shall be entirely responsible for the extraordinary expenses of the same church of Haylesham as far as they affect the rectory, and shall render obedience to the ordinaries for the said chapel of Haylesham as they have been accustomed to do for their church of Hellyngeleye. And when the vicarage is vacant the Abbot and Convent of Begham shall present to the Bishop of Chichester or to whomsoever presentations in that diocese ought to be made, some fit person as vicar.

And all previous suits are annulled.

Given at Tenham on the morrow of S^t Mark the Evangelist 1296.

The land here assigned to the vicarage evidently lay between the Sayerland road and the point where the road to Otham leaves the Glenleigh road, Bere bridge being on the first-named road and the Marledelonde being round Marland bridge. Possibly this is the four acres mentioned as being held by Haylesham church in Moorbrook Quarter, though it is in reality considerably more than four acres. The special injunction about the storing of the tithes was, no doubt, to prevent the abbey from treating this benefice as so many monastic possessions were treated, merely as a source of income to be visited at certain seasons to collect the tithes, which would then be taken away to the monastery and the parish left

¹⁵⁷ These words are crossed out; the religious penalty of excommunication was so often invoked for trivial secular offences that apparently the scribe in this case wrote the words automatically and then discovered his mistake.

alone till next collection, whereas if the tithes had to be stored in the parish the barns and granges would have to be kept up, men of the neighbourhood would have to be employed in storing and thrashing, and in fact the curse of absenteeism would be lessened. As regards the provision of rushes and straw for the floor of the church, probably at this time, as it was more than 400 years later, of damp earth, the Rev. G. M. Cooper in his ¹⁵⁸ article on Bayham mentions that the strewing of the churches grew into a religious festival, still (in 1857 and possibly yet) kept up in the North of England as "The Rush-bearing," and that till the middle of this century the Town Clerk of Norwich paid the subsacrist of the cathedral a guinea yearly for strewing the floor of the cathedral with rushes on the Mayor's Day. ✓

From what we have seen it is evident that the question of the origin of Hailsham Church was a very difficult one, but that evidence, unfortunately not now available, convinced the Archbishop that it was an offshoot of Hellingly Church, though the Bishop of Chichester held that it was itself a parish church. Now, Hellingly Church was probably founded about 1190, for amongst the deeds enrolled in the ¹⁵⁹ Bayham Chartulary is the following: "I Nicholas de Brade, eldest son of Ralph, when Bishop Seffrid II. consecrated the church of Helling endowed it with 12 denariates of land of my freehold which William de Meriefeld holds, because there was not any one else who would endow it and the bishop earnestly sought for an endowment for the church lest so excellent a work should be in any way hindered." There is a further gift by Richard de Helling "to the church of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul of Hellingel of a croft near the church; and I have given six perches of my moor to enlarge the court of the said church." Then Rikeward Brade gives to the monastery of Otteham "half of the church of Helling: for the soul of my father Rikeward de Helling." And finally, "We Seffrid Bishop of Chichester on the presentation of Rikeward and Randulf

Brade of Helling have admitted the abbot and canons of Ottenham to the church of Helling and have inducted them in the same, wherefore we will that they hold in perpetuity the fruits of the same church, saving a reasonable vicarage by which the chaplain who shall minister there by the presentation of the abbot may live decently." Now, Seffrid II. was bishop from 1180 to 1204; the canons of Ottenham must therefore have been in possession of Hellingly Church before the latter date and probably obtained it about 1200. Had Hailsham Church been built after this the monks would certainly never have let it be alienated from them. Possibly what occurred was this: Soon after the founding of Hellingly Church, say 1190, a small temporary church was erected at Hailsham and one of the Hellingly priests came over occasionally to hold a service; then some local noble built a regular stone church in which the same priest continued to officiate, possibly at first still residing in Hellingly till the church was endowed and a house built, when he became the first rector; time passed, the church was given to Michelham priory and held by them for fifty years, till an abbot of Bayham happened to find a record of how Hailsham Church originated, and started the contest which ended as we have seen. This of course is merely conjecture, but at least affords a possible suggestion of the truth as regards our church.

From the ¹⁶⁰survey of Otham made when Bayham Abbey was suppressed in 1526 it would appear that there was some sort of compromise effected between the abbey and the priory of Michelham when this case was concluded, as there is a note at the end of the survey of a yearly payment of £16. 13s. 4d. from the Manor of Otham to the Prior of Michelham, "in discharge of his rights in the Church of Haylesham and for certain other causes and considerations as appears by a deed in the hands of the said prior." But in the "Taxatio Ecclesiastica" of 1291, five years before the Archbishop's award, the Prior of Michelham is entered as receiving "from the

monks of Bekham £16. 13. 4." That this sum was the rent of the manor of Otham is evident from a ¹⁶¹letter of the Prior of Michelham in 1535, wherein he states that his house had been seised of that manor for more than 200 years, receiving therefor an annual rent of 25 marks. Possibly some agreement had been arrived at between 1287 and 1291 by the Abbot and Prior, by which the latter received the manor of Otham, agreeing, however, to allow the abbey to rent it at 25 marks, in return for surrendering the church, or at least his rights in it, leaving the Abbot to fight it out with the Rector.

¹⁶²In 1291 the "church of Alisham" was valued at £26. 13s. 4d. In the Nonae survey of the parish of Haylesham, taken in 1341, the jurors state "that the ninths of the sheaves &c cannot be made up to the assessment of the aforesaid church, which is assessed with the vicarage at 52 marcs, because the rector holds a messuage and land worth per annum 40^s from which the said church is endowed: also the vicar has the offerings of hay and hemp and the other small tithes, which are worth per annum £6. 6. 8." The division of the 52 marcs between the church and the vicarage is shown by a ¹⁶³Clerical Subsidy of the time of Henry VII., wherein "the Church of Haylesham is rated at 40 marcs and the vicarage of the same is rated at 12 marcs." By 1513 the church had fallen upon bad days, as in that year for the first time it appears in the long ¹⁶⁴list of "Priories and churches impoverished by damage to their lands and possessions by inundation, fire, &c.," and therefore unable to contribute to subsidies. Finally, in the Valor, 1537, Haylysham Vicarage is returned at £16. 6s. 8d.

The Chichester Registers record that in 1441 ¹⁶⁵"The bishop held a visitation of part of the Deanery of Pevensey in the church of Marsefield the 27th Sept. and of the other part in the parish church of Aylesham the last day of September." With this exception there is no reference to the church—apart from the rectory—till the

¹⁶¹ "Letters and Papers of Henry VIII."

¹⁶² "Taxatio Ecclesiastica."

¹⁶⁵ Praty Register.

¹⁶³ Cler. Subs., 14ths.

¹⁶⁴ Storey Register.

first year of Elizabeth, when the following appears on the minutes of the Privy Council:

¹⁶⁶ At Westminster 29th March 1559.

A letter to Thomas Bushopp and John Thatcher Justyces of Pease in Sussex, aunswerynge a letter of theirs unto Sir Richard Sackevyle knight, wherein they are wyllled for the better punisshement of an heynous dissorder lately committed by the inhabitaunts of the towne of Halishlesham, of the said county, in spoyling the parishe church there, to call for thassistence of Sir Nicholas Pelham and Sir Edward Gage and other Justices dwelling nighe unto them, and having founde oute who were thauctors and ringeleaders of that matter to committ them to warde, and to putt them to suche fynes for their offences as by their discretions shalbe thought most mete and agreable to the lawes.

No details of the offence or its punishment are forthcoming, and I have already commented on the circumstances that led up to it in a previous chapter. It is no doubt to this event that we owe the bullet marks on the tower—if indeed Geering was correct in believing the cup-like depressions in the stonework and the cracked flints on the southern face of the tower to be marks of bullets—as well as certain damage to the interior, which will be mentioned in the description of the architectural features.

Some information about the condition of the church in 1686 and 1724 may be gathered from the returns of the ¹⁶⁷visitations of the churches in the diocese of Chichester for those dates. The first is quite a short note: "Hailsham: The rooffe of the church wants a little mending in some places and the floore in some places wants paveing. The Fence ab^t y^e Churchyard in some places wants repairing. No Patine, No booke of homilies, no table of Degrees, no book of Articles. The Register is kept by y^e Vicar. No poor box." At the side is a note showing that some of these defects had been remedied: "y^e Bookes provided, y^e Reg^r books kept as y^e Canon directs." The return of 1724 enters into details:

Halisham commonly called Haylsham, a Vicarage.

The Rev M^r Thomas Hooper of Beckley Patron who is also Incumbent was of University College Oxon. A. M. Institut. 1701.

¹⁶⁶ Acts of the Privy Council, New Series, Vol. 7.

¹⁶⁷ *Penes*, Messrs. Hunt, Currey & Nicholson, at Lewes.

The Church in very good Repair only the Bottoms of the seats want planking having nothing but very damp Earth ; a good Bible, Common Prayer Book and a Pewter Flaggon, a silver cup, a chest, five large Bells ; there are several gardens taken out of the Churchyard and several fagotts Stocks in it which increase yearly to a great Inconvenience.

The Chancell in good Repair except the Windows, the repairs belong to Sir Robert Fagg.

A good Vicarage house with a Barn and Stable.

Fifty two families (in the parish). Two Anabaptists and six or seven Presbyterians.

No Benefaccions or Gifts to the Church. No Augmentation to the Living.

Value in the King's Books £16. 6. 8.

Divine Service and a Sermon twice every Lords Day supplied by Mr John Cittizen Curate.

The Sacrament administered four times a year, about fourty communicants.

No Glebe.

The silver cup, chest and bells are still in possession of the church. As regards the Anabaptists, on the fly-leaf of the second register book is an entry of the "Children born to the Anabaptists in this Parish and others not baptized." It covers from 1696 to 1702 and mentions seven children ; the parents were : Thomas and Ellenor Burgess (3), Thomas and Martha French, William and Mary Colbrand (2), Edmund Edes. Although there was no glebe at this time there had been previous to the time of the Commonwealth, as appears from the following survey, dated September the first, 1635 :

¹⁰⁸ A Terrier of the Glebeland belonging to y^e vicaridge of Hailsham taken by William Osborne vicar of Hailsham, Robert Deeplacke and John Umfrey churchwardens and John Bathee and John Browning Sidemen : Mr Stephen French, Richard May, Richard Baker and others. There is belonging to y^e said vicaridge one Dwelling house and one Barne and about halfe an acre of land by estimation all w^{ch} land Abutteth and boundeth in manner and forme following : Imprimis upon y^e Church yard upon y^e South and Southwest, upon a field called y^e Parsonage field upon y^e West and the Northwest upon the Kings highway leading from y^e Common of Hailsham into y^e Marsh upon y^e North and North-East : and upon y^e Kings highway leading from Hesmunseux into Hailsham towne upon the East and South-East.

¹⁰⁸ For a transcript of this terrier I am indebted to W. Dunkin, Esq.

The entries relating to the church in the parish accounts are very few; the first is simply two payments in 1753 to William Mils "for Dicing the Church yard," and "for cleaning the paving in the Churchyard and Clearing it a way;" the last part is presumably not to be taken literally. In 1762 we have the large sum of £1. 5s. 6d. "paid for peoples Learning to Sing in the Church;" the employment of a paid choir-master at this date must be rather uncommon, I should imagine, and it would have been interesting to have had some details as to who taught them and the reason, or at least the originator, of this artistic movement. At a meeting of the vestry in May, 1804, it was "resolved that a Brick Sewer is to be laid in order to lay the church dry. Also agreed to repair the South side of the church and put a skylight over the Gallery, also to repair the pavement from the Great Door to the gate of the Vicarage House including the Footway to the Vestry door. It appears necessary at this meeting to erect a Gallery at the West End of the Church; the materials of the Singing seats to be made use of. To defray the above expenses a church rate of 1^s in the pound to be levied." One rather wonders whether the "singing seats" were old carved stalls, it would so exactly have accorded with the taste of that age to have used such material for a gallery, or whether possibly they were put in at the time of the musical enthusiasm in 1763. At this same meeting Charles Elphick was appointed sexton, and a list of the sexton's fees is given: "Tolling Bell for funerals 1^s per hour, Digging Grave 3^s, Laying the Turf and raising it 1^s, for Sweeping the Ailes and cleaning the open spaces in the Church and likewise Chyming the Bells 50^s per annum." Finally, in 1836, it was "resolved that the church be repaired forthwith," but what repairs were required is not stated.

Before proceeding to describe the church architecturally we will trace the descent of the rectory and advowson. From 1296 to 1526 the rectory remained in the hands of Bayham Abbey, but in 1465 ¹⁶⁹ Thomas,

¹⁶⁹ Claus. 5^o Edw. IV., m. 17.

abbot of Begham, in discharge of a debt of £500 owed to Thomas Bryan, serjeant-at-law (probably incurred through a law suit with Michelham priory, to which reference will be made later), agrees to pay down £200 at the Feast of the Annunciation following and to lease to the said Thomas Bryan for 31 years the Rectory of Haylesham with all tithes, issues and other appurtenances. In 1525 Cardinal Wolsey obtained the licence of the Pope and King Henry VIII. to suppress several small religious houses, including the two Sussex Monasteries of Calceto (in West Sussex) and Bayham, in order to found a college in the University of Oxford, called at first Cardinal's College, but now Christ Church. Accordingly in May of the following year the Cardinal was granted a ¹⁷⁰mortmain licence to appropriate the rectory of Haylesham to his college; and in the following January a presentation was made to the vicarage of Hailsham by ¹⁷¹"the venerable Master John Higden D.D. Dean of the College of Thomas Cardinal of York in the University of Oxford and the Canons of the same College." On the Cardinal's attainder in 1530 the rectory seems to have been taken from the college, as in one of the ¹⁷²books of the Augmentation Office apparently of this date the "Lease of the Rectory of Hayllesham with appurtenances, £13. 6. 8," is "assigned to the College of Wyndesor." ✓

After this short connection with these two great scholastic foundations the rectory passed into private hands, Henry VIII. granting in 1531 to ¹⁷³James Gage, Esq., for £556. 7s. 5½d. the Rectory of Haylisham with all appurtenances, and the reversion thereof, and the advowson of the parish church and certain rents lately belonging to the monastery of Beghame in Hailesham. A case on the Memoranda Rolls of 1560 gives some details of the land thus held by James Gage as belonging to the rectory:

¹⁷⁰ "Letters and Papers of Henry VIII."

¹⁷¹ Shirburn Register.

¹⁷² Aug. Off., Misc. Books, 117.

¹⁷³ Orig. 35^o Henry VIII., p. 5, and Mem. 3^o Eliz., Trin., m. 12.

¹⁷⁴In 4 and 5 Philip and Mary the sheriff of Sussex had been commanded to distrain on the lands of James Gage Esq. that he should do fealty to the King and Queen for the tithes of the Rectory of Aylesham, and a manse there called the parsonage house, and a parcel of land on which the tithe barn of the said rectory lately stood containing 3 acres, and another parcel of land called le Garrett belonging to the rectory containing 7 acres, and a marsh called Harwardes marshe containing 10 acres, and another marsh called the Est marshe containing 50 acres with all appurtenances of the rectory late in tenure of Thomas Joyner and held in chief of the King and Queen, of which James is seised in fee. And John Assheburnham Esq. late sheriff said that James Gage had no property in the same land on which a distraint could be levied; so the sheriff was ordered to distrain the tenants of the said rectory. Accordingly Thomas Deringe gentleman was distrained this 3rd year of Elizabeth to pay homage to the Queen and to show by what title he holds the same rectory. And he says that James Gage of Framfield Esq. being seised in fee of the tithes &c of the church of Elysham did by indenture of 14 February 2 and 3 Philip and Mary bargain and sell to the said Thomas Deringe of Lysse of Southants gentleman all the tithes and other premises except 10 acres of the marsh called Est marshe which 10 acres lie at "le entre" into the said marsh and are adjacent to the marsh called Hemestales on the West and the ditch and road leading from Aylsham to Hurstmounceaux on the East, and excepting the advowson of the parish church of Aylsham: which indenture was ratified afterwards by a grant of letters patent 3rd Elizabeth for £9. 15 paid into the hanaper.

The Memoranda, again, of 1576, afford some more information about the land belonging to the rectory; Thomas Foster being summoned to show by what title he holds 36 acres, parcel of the rectory of Haylesham. In the following entry the first two parcels do not belong to the rectory, apparently,—at least, the remainder adds up to 36 acres without them:

¹⁷⁵By an indenture of 12 June 17th Eliz. John Gage of Framfield and Urith his wife sold to John Sey of Herstmounceux husbandman; a parcel of marsh containing 11 acres in Pevensey and Haylesham adjoining the lane from Herstmounceux to Horsey E., the land of Thomas Devenes gent. S., the land of Robert Whitefeild W., and the watercourse called Wholepole N.; a second parcel, part of Telmershe containing 23 acres in Haylesham adjoining a certain Wable way from Haylesham to Herstmounceux S., John Gage's land called Telemershe N.W., and a watercourse running from Amberstone to Rickney bridge N.E.; a third parcel, part of Grovefeild containing 16 acres adjoining a certain ¹⁷⁶Whapple way from the market of Haylesham to

¹⁷⁴ Mem. 3^o Eliz., Trin., m. 20.

¹⁷⁵ Mem. 19^o Eliz., Mich., 76.

¹⁷⁶ Whapple-way = A bridle path through fields.

Herstmounceux S., Lord Dacre's land called Sixeacres and land called Burtons Grove W., the land of the heirs of John Twitte and the land of Nicholas Foster N., and the said Nicholas's land called the longe hedge E.; a fourth parcel, a croft called Knightes Crofte containing $1\frac{1}{2}$ acre adjoining the said Whaple way from the market S., the longe hedge W. and N. and Nicholas Foster's land called Perifeilds E.; a fifth parcel, part of the land called Buddes Grove containing $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres adjoining the said Whaple way N., and the land of the most noble Lord Dacres called Greseland W., and the land of William Edwardes called the Stockes and the lands of Alexander Foster called the Ramsbye S., and the land of Nicholas Foster called Upperfiv Roden E., and a coppice of the same Nicholas called Buddes Grove lies in the middle of the said $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres: a sixth parcel, part of the lands called the Peake containing 4 acres adjoining the said Whaple Way S., the lands of Nicholas Foster called the little peake E., the land of Lord Dacres called the netherlady marshe N., and the land of Nicholas Foster called Deanes W.; a seventh parcel, 2 acres of marsh in Whelpole Level adjoining the land of Lord Dacres called the Upperlady mershe E., the land of Thomas Baker N., the land of John Avernell W. and the land of Nicholas Foster called Brode Crofte S.; an eighth parcel, 7 acres of pasture called Whelpole adjoining the road from Horebuttinges grene to Lombardes Halle N., and another road from Whelpole marsh to ¹⁷⁷distly feild corner E., the lands of Nicholas Foster called Folmerlands S., and the lands of John Spinner W.; and a ninth parcel, another croft called Whelpole with a watercourse running through the middle adjoining the Wyshe of Nicholas Foster S., the land of the same Nicholas called Felmerland E., the land of Robert Twitt called Whelers W., and a coppice adjacent to a piece of John Spinner's land N.

And in 18th Eliz. Thomas Foster bought all the above from John Saye for £40.

¹⁷⁸Burrell mentions that Edward Gage of Bentley held the rectory and advowson of Hailsham in 1572; and that he still held it 1582 is evident from his ¹⁷⁹presenting Reginald Bursey to the vicarage that year. But from a return made probably about 1600 we find that at that time James Thatcher, Esq., was patron of the living. The advowson had by this time become separated from the rectory, possibly when forfeited by Edward Gage for his recusancy, and the latter was in 1611 in the hands of John Page, as appears from the following notice:

¹⁸⁰A Fine had been levied in the King's Bench by which Barnaby Hodgeson sought leave to compound with John Page for the rectory of Haylesham: and as the alienation of the rectory was made without

¹⁷⁷ *i.e.*, Thistle-field.

¹⁷⁸ Add. MSS., 5,681.

¹⁷⁹ Grindall Register.

¹⁸⁰ Mem. 11^o Jas. 1., Easter, 22.

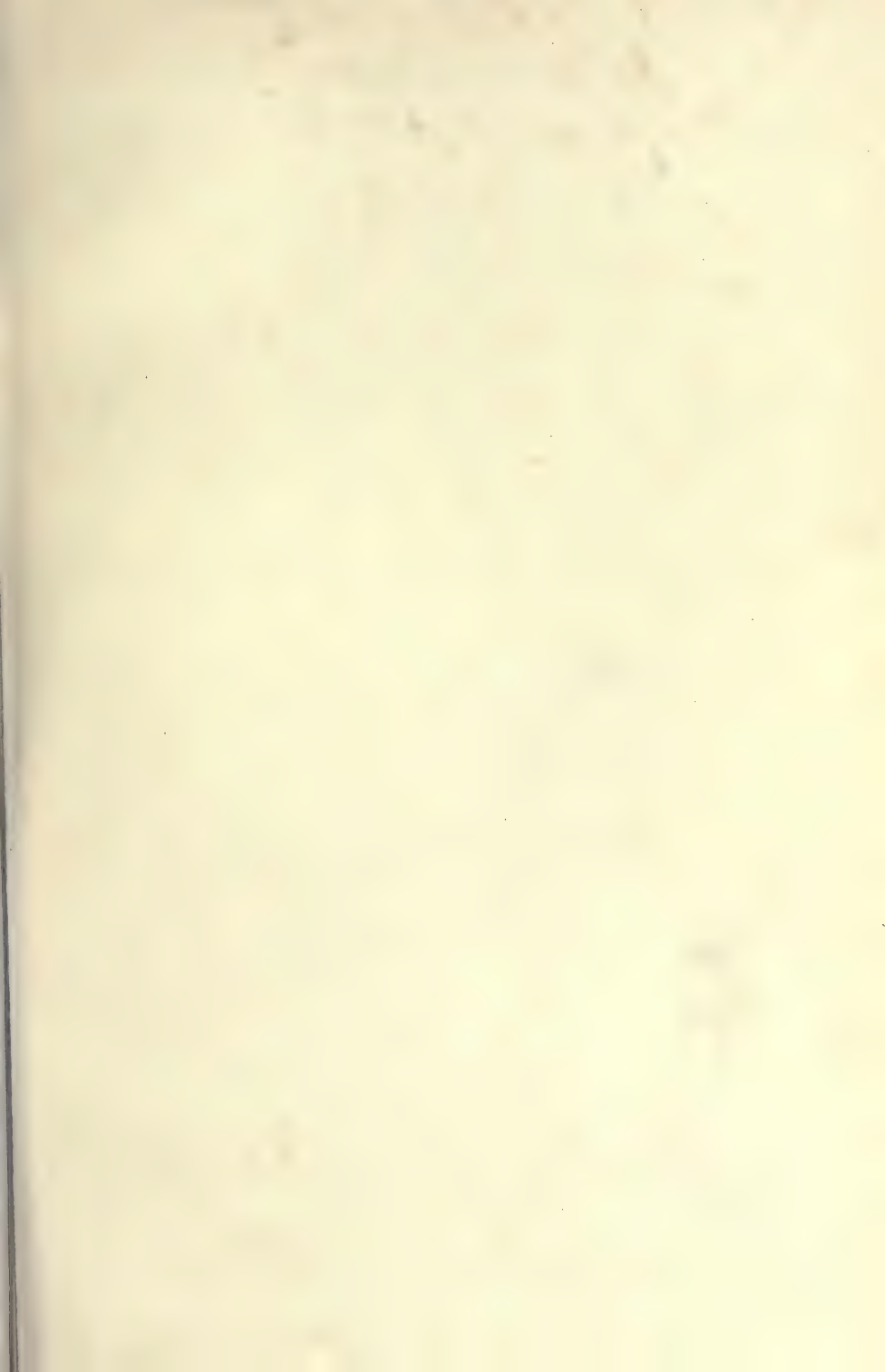
the king's licence, though it is held of the king in chief, Barnaby Hodgson is summoned to show cause why the rectory should not be seized into the king's hands. Accordingly Barnaby Hodgeson and Goldsmyth Hodgeson his son and heir apparent come and say that: on 2nd Sept. 9^o Jas. I John Page obtained letters patent to the effect that of his especial grace and for 100^s the king allowed John Page to alienate the rectory of Aylisham to the said Barnaby. By virtue of which John Page of Eckington alias Ripe and Dorothy his wife and Habell his son did by indenture of 9 Nov. 9 Jas. alienate to Barnaby Hodgeson of Framfield gent. and Goldsmyth his son the rectory of Haylsham with all the tithes and issues thereof and a parcel of land containing 4 acres more or less, another parcell called le Garrett containing about 7 acres, a parcel of marsh containing about 10 acres called Harwoods marsh and another called litle Eastmarshe containing about 12 acres and a parcel formerly part of Eastmarsh containing about 30 acres: and to secure this conveyance the above-mentioned fine was levied.

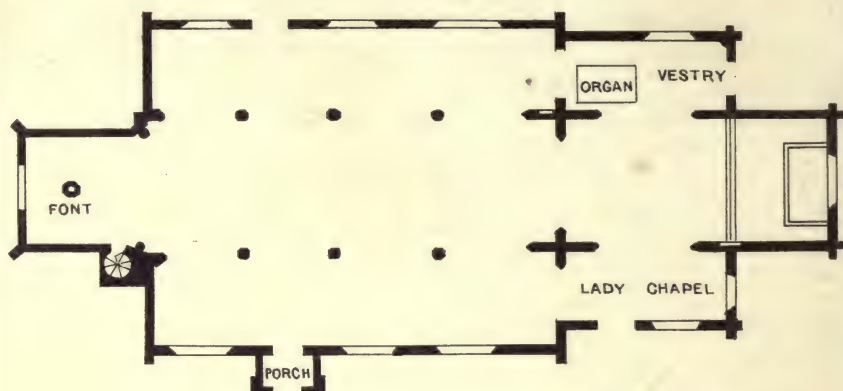
¹⁸¹ Goldsmith Hodgson, gent, died in May, 1638, seised of the rectory of Haylsham holden in chief of the King by a hundredth part of a knight's fee.

The advowson was in the hands of the Earls of Dorset in 1625 and 1660, as is shown by the presentations for those years. But in 1701 the vicar, Thomas Hooper, was also patron; the rectory, according to the return of 1724 given above, was in the hands of Sir Robert Fagg, as appears from his being responsible for the repairs of the chancel. The patronage remained in the Hooper family till 1805, and the rectory appears also to have been acquired by them, as Elizabeth Hooper, who died in 1810, left the great tithes to John Luxford, Esq., of Robertsbridge, in whose family the rectory still is. By the ¹⁸²Tithe Commutation award of March, 1842, Rev. George Curteis Luxford, impropiator of the great tithes, and his heirs to be paid £420 per annum in lieu of the great tithes; Rev. George Pocock, patron and vicar, to be paid £599 in lieu of all tithes of hay and vicarial tithes other than the tithes of hops, 10s. per imperial acre or portion of an acre to be paid to the vicar for all hop grounds. In 1846 Thomas Sheppard, Esq., of Folkington, purchased the advowson, and it is at present in the hands

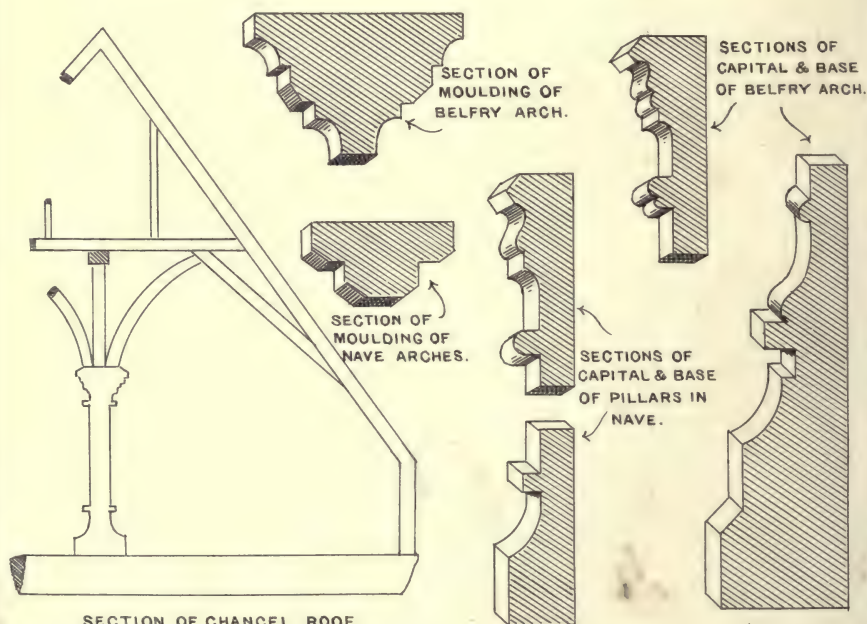
¹⁸¹ Add. MSS., 5,681.

¹⁸² A copy of the award, with the tithe map, is kept at Messrs. Burtenshaw's Office, Hailsham.





GROUND PLAN OF HAILSHAM CHURCH.



§
25.

of his trustees. The present gross value is £434, the actual nett amount received by the vicar being only £31.

We now turn to the architectural features of the church. We have seen that, probably as early as 1200, a church was erected here; but of this structure there are now no remains, excepting a double capital of the "Early English" period dug up during a recent restoration and now preserved in the Lady Chapel. The present building is entirely in the "Perpendicular" style and dates, in my opinion, from about 1425, or even later. The church is dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin, and this appears to have been the original dedication, as Robert Willard in his will dated 1528 desires to be buried "in the churchyard of our Lady in Halsam." It consists of a nave with north and south aisles, a western tower, a chancel flanked by north and south chapels, and a modern south porch.

Commencing at the west: The tower is square and well-proportioned, some 70 feet in height, built of blocks of sandstone, alternating with squares of knapped flints, with prominent buttresses at the angles, and finished off with battlements and four crocketed ¹⁸³pinnacles, a low pyramidal roof of red tiles rising in the centre, surmounted by a ¹⁸⁴weather-vane. At the south-east angle the octagonal stair-turret projects, giving the tower—which is visible for a long distance round owing to its situation on the top of a slight hill, about 100 feet above sea level—from some aspects a curiously lop-sided appearance. The first storey—the clock-room—is lighted by three small single-light windows; the second storey—the bell-room—has four two-light windows divided by transoms. The ground floor forms the belfry; on the west is a door, surmounted by a large window, which I am told is a copy of the original; the door and window

¹⁸³ "In 1756 the Rev. N. Torriano, M.D., preached a sermon at Hooe and Nimfield on a fast day after the earthquake of Lisbon, in which he stated that 'The spire of Helsham steeple' had lately been struck down by lightning. It was really the north-west pinnacle that was struck."—Lower's "History of Sussex."

¹⁸⁴ The vane bears the date 1801 and initials of W. H(ilder) and W. K(ing), then churchwardens.

are enclosed under a semi-circular arch. In the centre of the belfry is the font, consisting of a plain octagonal basin supported by a pedestal with simple perpendicular pannelling. In the south-east angle is the small doorway, of red sandstone, into the stair-turret. On the east the belfry opens into the nave through a very fine arch, the best architectural feature of the church; this arch was bricked up—the stone of the pillars being in many places cut to admit the bricks—till 1889, when, amongst other restorations, it was opened up, to the great improvement of the church. The pillars, of red sandstone, are circular, about a third of their surface being in contact with the wall, with pedestal bases about four feet in height (of which a section is given in the Plate, as also of the capitals). The mouldings of the arch—the apex of which is within about eight feet of the roof—though more elaborate than in the nave arches, are simple but effective (a section is given).

The nave is divided from the aisles by four arches springing from octagonal columns of greystone, with plain bases and feeble shallow capitals (for sections of arch moulding, capitals and bases, see Plate). The roof of the nave had been lowered six feet some time before the end of the eighteenth century; in 1889 it was raised to its former height, as shown by the ridge mark on the tower, small cinquefoil clerestory windows being inserted, which has made a considerable improvement in the appearance of the church, especially of the exterior.¹⁸⁵ In the view of Hailsham Church, drawn by Grimm in 1784, the roof is shown at the lower level and extends right down over the south aisle—it extended similarly on the other side over the north aisle. This south aisle was a wretched erection of brick and stucco in the pseudo-classical style—"rather late and very debased"—with square wood-cased windows and mean little porch; it was removed in 1870, when the present aisle and porch were built, and even the most zealous antiquary will hardly regret its destruction, for although the prevalent tendency

¹⁸⁵ Add. MSS., 5,676, f. 65.

to replace work of the post-Gothic period, good in itself and as historically valuable as any "Saxon" or Norman work, by modern shams is to be deplored, the preservation of intrinsically bad work merely because it exists is absurd. The present building cannot be called successful; it is of greystone in sawn blocks, quite unlike the rest of the church, and the porch is rather heavy, with a clumsy canopied niche over the door—empty, and never intended to contain anything. The north aisle, restored about 1880, is of broken sandstone, the lower part being original work, and the stone parapet corresponding to the south aisle replacing the former sloping roof. Each aisle is lighted by three modern windows of three lights.

Originally the chancel arch was of the same height as the nave arches, as in the case of Hellingly Church, but the step between the nave and chancel having been removed, so that the floors of the two are now on a level, it is now some eight inches higher than the other arches and appears paltry in consequence. The east window is of four lights with simple Perpendicular tracery; at the east of the south wall is another window of later date. There is a small plain trefoil-headed piscina in the south wall and adjoining it the sedilia, at present merely a broad recess under a flat arch, resembling rather an altar tomb; but a mark in the centre of the wall at the back—more obvious before the painting in 1894—seems to indicate that it was originally divided into two seats by a Y-shaped partition. The roof of the chancel, and also of the nave, is of open timber work of the fifteenth century. I have given, in the plate of architectural details, a section taken through the beam which crosses the chancel almost directly above the present altar rails; two slender round uprights will be noticed above the king-post, between these the Sanctus bell is believed to have hung; this beam is supported by brackets (modern), the southern of which rests upon a corbel stone—the corresponding stone on the north was apparently removed to make room for a memorial tablet—this stone is very rough and battered and appears to me to have been deliberately broken; as moreover there are two small

stones inserted at its base I am inclined to believe that it was originally carved into the shape either of an angel or possibly the crest of some local family or other device, and that it was broken in the riot of 1559. There is another similar stone above the east window also bearing marks of assault, but whether it supported another bracket to the roof, or what its use was is not clear.

On either side of the chancel is a chapel; that on the north is now the vestry. It was entirely rebuilt in 1876; previous to this it had been for some time used as a school, for which purpose it had been lengthened and the arches leading into the chancel and north aisle blocked up; on the chancel side of the blocked arch formerly hung two paintings, "Moses" and "Aaron," both executed with moderate skill, especially the "Moses." When the arch was re-opened they were allowed to be removed by the carpenter employed on the restoration, and were bought from him by Mr. William Strickland, in whose hands they now are. They are painted on pannelled oak and appear to me to be about 150 years old, but their present owner assigns them a considerably greater antiquity. In the south wall of the vestry is a piscina similar to that in the chancel.

Corresponding to the vestry on the south is the Lady Chapel; this was also rebuilt on the old foundations about 1878. It is lighted by a window at the east and another in the south wall, adjoining which is a small door; it opens into the chancel on the north and, by a flat arch, into the south aisle on the west. There is a third piscina in the south wall of this chapel, and in a niche above it is the double capital, carved with "Early English" foliage, already mentioned as the only remains of the original church.

Of old stained glass the only remains are a few fragments, dating from the fifteenth century, now preserved in a window in the north aisle. The east window, a geometrical design in pale colours, was erected "To the Glory of God and to the Memory of a beloved Mother by F(rederick) S(herwood) 1877." And the easternmost

bay of the north aisle was filled with a design representing Faith, Hope and Charity, "To the Glory of God and in loving Memory of Eliza Sarah wife of Frederick Sherwood of Ersham Lodge A.D. 1885." The south window of the chancel is "In Memory of Charles Fletcher—Henry Offley—and Thomas Willoughby Harvey whose bodies are interred outside the East end of this Church." And the east window of the Lady Chapel, with scenes from the life of Jacob, "In Memory of George Gayton Harvey, Vicar of Hailsham 1846-1872 Who died April 29 1875."

The following are the memorial inscriptions within the church:

On south side of the east window, on an oval of black marble within a frame of white, surmounted by a coat of arms:—Quarterly: 1 and 4, Hooper=Quarterly *erm.* and *or* a tower *sa.* 2, Lloyd=*sa.* within a bordure wavy a lion rampant *or.* 3, Odiarne=*sa.* a chevron between 3 covered cups *or.*

Sacred | to the Memory of | Odiarne Hooper M.A. | who remains are deposited | with his Family | in the Church of Beckley in this | County. | He was for upwards of ¹⁸⁶46 Years | a faithful and truly Pastoral | Vicar of this Parish | and | died August the 2nd 1769 | in the 69th Year of his | Age.

On the north side of the window, on a similar tablet, with the addition of a square of white marble below:

Sacred | to the Memory of | Elizabeth Hooper | who resided the whole of her Life | in the Vicarage House | in this Parish | and | who died Nov^r y^e 8th 1810. | Her remains are deposited | with her family in the Chancel | at Beckley. | Aged 84.

She left by her Will | respectively to the parishes of | Hailsham and Beckley | 300£ old South Sea Annuities | directing the Dividends to be given | to the Poor | at the discretion of each | Incumbent. | She also left 300£ five p^r Cents | Bank Annuities | To the Vicar and Churchwardens of | this Parish. | The Dividend to be applied for ever | towards the Support of the Charity School | established here in the Year 1812.¹⁸⁷

On the north wall of the chancel, on a slab of grey marble, surmounted by a coat of arms: *Gu.* a chevron between 3 lions rampant *or*; crest, a lion rampant *or.*

¹⁸⁶ This should read "16 years."

¹⁸⁷ Probably a mistake for 1802.

Sacred | to the Memory of | the Rev^d Tho^s Hubersty | late Curate of this | Church | whose Remains are deposited | under a stone near this place. | He departed this Life | suddenly, the 31st of October | 1793 | in the 26th Year of his | Age.

On the south wall of the chancel, a white marble tablet, with inscription in "Gothic" lettering and coat of arms, a chevron between three fish-weels:

The Family of Willard, for a long period Lords of the Manor of Ersham, were resident in this Parish in the reign of King Edward III A.D. 1341; when William Wyllard and John Wyllard contributed towards the Nonae Tax. Amongst many subsequent members of the Family buried here were Christopher Willard who died about 1500, Robert Willard 1528, Nicholas Willard 1543,

William Willard 1595 &c. L^t Colonel John Harry Willard of Eastbourne erected this Tablet to the Memory of his Ancestors, 25th December MDCCCXXXIX.

Over the door in the Lady Chapel, on a tablet of white marble, framed with fluted columns, cherubs, &c., of grey marble:

Under a Stone near this | Place Lieth Interred the | Body of Anthony | Trumble Gent: who | Departed this Life y^e 1st | of September 1733 | Aged 63 Years.

On north wall of south aisle, at east end, on oval of black marble, surmounted by a white marble urn:

In | Memory of | Lieut Thomas Bonell Webb | late of H.M. 39th Regiment | who died the 7th Febr^y 1805. | Aged 26 Years. | He was | A Friend without Guile | A soldier without Vice | a Christian without Bigotry.

On the south wall of the nave, at east end, a black marble tablet:

On the North Side of | this Church Yard rest the Remains | of Mary Maxey | Relict of John Maxey | an eminent Attorney | of Wallingford Berks | and Mother of Martha Cannon | wife to Edward Cannon | formerly Surgeon | at Hailsham | She died August 11th 1772 | Aged 63 Years.

On a white marble tablet on north wall of north aisle, at east end:

Near This Place | Lie the Remains of Ann | Wife of M^r John Bristow | and only surviving Child | of M^r John Miller | each of this Parish | She died on the 29th of April 1800 | In the 76th Year of her Age. | "The Memory of the Just is blessed."

M^r John Bristow | died Oct^r 17th 1803 Aged 81 Years.





Photograph by

E. I. Baker.

HAILSHAM CHURCH.—NORTH AISLE.

Below this, a brass tablet with crest, a lamb passant holding in dexter hoof a banner charged with a cross, surrounded by the motto "Onward Upward":

To the Glory of God | and To the Memory of | Frederic Sherwood |
Born 23 Mar. 1817 Died 2 Nov 1878. | and of | Madara Sophia | sister
of the above Russ & the 1819 Died 20 Feb. 1855 | Who lived for
many years at Hickam Lodge on this Island | and are interred in the
| Cemetery - Dealing Tomb. & "The Master is come and calleth for

Further east, between the two windows, a slab:

In Memory of Colonel Philip Van Cortlandt of the Manor of
Cortlandt & several Regiments of the American War.
Died at Ballston, Nov. 10, 1869, aged 78 years. His Memory of the
Sons of the State.

Barbara Foster, who was born in 1712. Aged 80 years.

June 14. With wife and child Sept. 2nd 1796. | April 24. Young.

Julia [washed] down throat then she died May 18th 1773 | Aged 64

Wife (married name Ethel) Douglas was died May 19 1964 (aged

—*John Campbell, uncle Joseph Campbell's son-in-law (March 1861–1904)
died in Yuma.*

On a separate portion of the same sheet as the



R. J. Baker.

HAILSHAM CHURCH.—NORTH AISLE.

Below this, a brass tablet with crest, a lamb passant holding in dexter hoof a banner charged with a cross, surrounded by the motto "Onward Upward":

To the Glory of God | and To the Memory of | Frederic Sherwood | Born 23 Mar. 1817 Died 9 Nov 1898. | and of | Medora Sophia | sister of the above Born 5 Oct 1819 Died 26 Feb. 1885 | Who lived for many years at Ersham Lodge in this Parish | and are interred in the | Cemetery Dorking Surrey. | "The Master is come and calleth for thee."

Further west, between the two windows, a slab:

In | Memory of | Colonel Philip | Van Cortlandt | of the Manor of | Cortlandt | A Retired Royalist | officer | of the American War. | Died at Hailsham | May 1814 | Aged 74 years. | The Memory of the Just | is Blessed. Prov. x. vii.

Further west again, between the window and the door, is a very large marble tablet, surmounted by a coat of arms: Luxford=*Or*, 3 boars' heads coupéd langued *gu.*; impaling *or* a fess chequy *gu.* and *sa.* in chief 3 cross crosslets of the last:

Sacred | to the Memory of

Edward Luxford who died March | 3^d 174 $\frac{1}{2}$ Aged 66 Years.

Jane his Wife who died Sept. 6th 1768 | Aged 86 Years.

John Luxford their Eldest Son who died May 13th 1775 | Aged 64 Years.

Mary Luxford their Eldest Daughter who died May 11th 1763 | Aged 50 Years.

Ann Luxford their Fourth Daughter who died | March 16th 174 $\frac{1}{2}$ Aged 23 Years.

Edward Luxford their Youngest Son who died | Decem. 7th 1770 Aged 47 Years.

Ann Laugham Daughter of Abraham and Jane Laugham | (Grand-daughter of the above-named Edw^d and Jane Luxford) | who died April 11th 1757 Aged 4 years and 10 months.

Frances Luxford | daughter of Edward and Frances Luxford | Grandaughter | of the above-said Edw^d and Jane Luxford) who died | May 26th 1763 Aged 9 years and 6 months.

Frances Relict of the above | Edward Luxford | died Oct. 7th 1796 Aged 72.

Abraham Laugham who died 12th June 1793 Aged 76 Years.

Jane Laugham his Widow who died 15th April 1805 | Aged | 90 Years.

On a separate portion of this tablet, added at the bottom:

Elizth Plumer Wife of Rich^d Plumer | of the South Sea House
London Esq^r | and Daughter of Abraham and Jane Laugham | late
of this Parish | who died Dec^r 16th 1798 Aged 41 Years.

Richard Plumer late of the South Sea House | London Esq^r who
died 3rd May 1813 Aged 58 years.

Upon reading this last epitaph, lovers of Charles Lamb—and who that has read his works does not love “Elia?”—will be inclined to ask, can this be the “fine rattling, rattle-headed Plumer” of the Essay on “The South Sea House?” The dates certainly agree pretty well; Richard Plumer would have been about 35 when Lamb first entered the House. But I fear the case for their identity will not hold. This esquire would hardly have been a clerk in an office; moreover, Lamb’s Plumer was the son of Walter Plumer of Hertfordshire, while this Richard was probably related to the James Plumer, gent,¹⁸⁸ who died about 1778 and left land in Moorbrook to John Plumer, Esq., his nephew, and Robert Plumer, gent, of the Cliff, near Lewes, his brother. So this literary association must regretfully be abandoned.

Hailsham Church is fortunate in the possession of a peal of eight good bells, of which five date from 1663, one recast in 1768, and the other three from 1889. The three lightest bear the inscription:

Rev. F. C. Harvey, Vicar. Edward Browne James Medhurst
Churchwardens 1889

The inscriptions on the remaining bells are as follows:

JOHN HODSON made mee 1663 WH IR IR TA CW TV

JOHN HODSON made mee 1663 IR IR TA CW WS HS LB WH

John Pattenden and Abr^m Laugham Ch. wardens Lester and Pack
of London fecit 1768

JOHN HODSON made mee 1663 IR TA CW William Hull

JOHN HODSON made mee 1663 Ieremiah Reed Iohn Rucke Thomas
Ackehurste Churchwardens WH WS

¹⁸⁹ John Hodson was a famous bell founder of the seventeenth century, who cast a good many Sussex bells, including that of Rotherfield, which is one of the largest in the county. William Hull was his foreman till about 1672, when he became foreman to Michael Darbie, and

¹⁸⁸ Otham Court Rolls.

¹⁸⁹ “S.A.C.,” Vol. XVI.

in 1676 set up for himself at South Malling, where he died in 1687. His son John continued the foundry for a short time after his death. The Hailsham bells were no doubt cast at "Bellbanks," near the Common Pond, and apparently the place was found convenient again at a later date, as the Ninfield registers contain the following entry: "The middle bell was brought home July 19, 1676, being new cast (by William Hull and Hudson of London) at Hailsham."

The largest of the bells, the tenor, weighs slightly over 10-cwt. and is used every evening at eight o'clock for the ringing of the curfew.

The furniture of the church is entirely modern with the exception of a small oak chest carved with the "linen pattern." Another plain large chest stands in the archway leading from the north aisle into the vestry and contains the churchwardens' accounts.

The Communion plate consists of: A flagon and a patten bearing the initials E. H. (Elizabeth Hooper) and the date 1807; a small silver patten, inscribed, "The Gift of Richard Grastock and Elizabeth his Wife for the use of the Communion Table of Haylesham in Sussex 1728;" and a plain silver chalice, apparently of the seventeenth century. There is also a silver alms dish with the initials A. A. and date 1885, presented to the church by Miss Anne Aires.

The registers have been largely quoted from in the preceding chapters; they commence with the year 1558, the first 40 years being transcribed from an older book, as appears from the title of the first volume:

HAYLSHAM.

A^o 1559

A^o 1598

in wh. yeare the
Register was
Ingrosed and writte

NEW REGISTER of all
Christening Marrying and Burying wh.
hath bine in the pish aforesaid since
the first yeare of the Raigne of oure
Sovraigne Lady Elizabeth the
Queenes Ma^{tie} that now is.

Inside this first volume is a note on the fly-leaf to the effect that "This Register book was found among the papers of the late Rev^d Thomas Hooper Vicar of

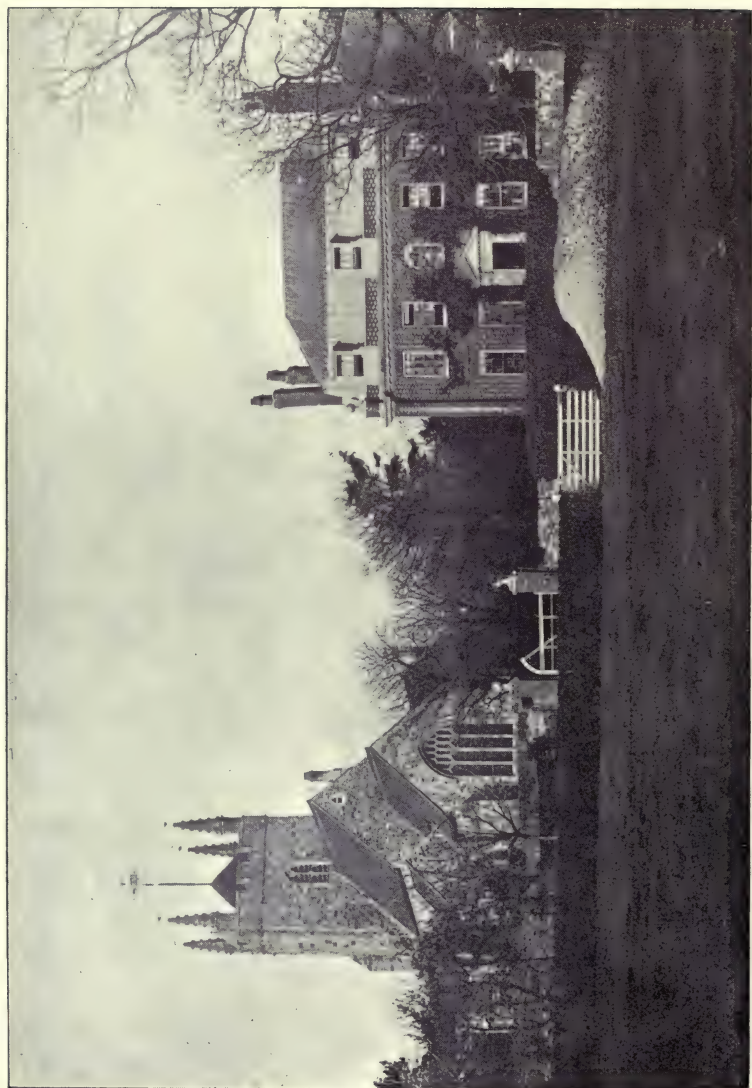
Haylsham by John Luxford Esq. then living in Framfield and by him intrusted to the care of the Rev. John Thompson to be faithfully returned to the present vicar of Hailsham—the Rev. Rich^d Constable—Sep^r 27, 1828.”

The second volume is entitled :

John Pardon clarke of Hailshame whoe came to the clarkshipe in the Yeare 1643.	A Register of the parish of Hailsham begunne Anno Domini 1638 John Bathee and Robert Collyingham being Churchwardens.
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This completes the account of the church, and we now turn to the vicars.





HAILSHAM CHURCH AND VICARAGE.

CHAPTER IX.

c. 1230—c. 1295. MASTER ROBERT DE BLECHYNTON, as we have seen, was rector of Hailsham in 1286 and had held that position for a considerable time, as he is described as "rector ab antiquo."¹⁰⁰ A Robert de Blechington, clerk, made a grant of land in Arlington to Michelham Priory in 1230; he may have been already at this date rector here, but it is possible that he was presented to the church, as a benefactor of the priory, in 1263, when¹⁰¹ Robert de Blechington obtained a Papal Dispensation to hold two benefices besides the church of "in Blechington." Of these two suggestions the former is the more probable, as it implies the continuation of the office of Blechington's church for the century after the Prior of Michelham had apparently superseded the rectory in 1230, and afterwards died.

It is probable that Robert de Blechington was the master of the priory, as he is described as "rector ab antiquo," and as he is described as "rector ab antiquo," which would imply that he was the last of his line, and would imply that he was appointed by the priory instead of having been in possession when the priory was granted to the Priory. He was the last of his line, as the Abbot of Bayham obtaining the rectory in 1286.

MASTER THOMAS DE HAYLESHAM was witness to William de Warenne's charter and may very likely have been a vicar here.

1286. LAWRENCE DE LA TOURNE, vicar of Haylesham, is mentioned as one of those mentioned in the Brevidium of the Abbot of Bayham's gift from the church; John le Clerk of Haylesham may have been his vicar or priest. He no doubt took his name from la Tourne (Tournash), as another later vicar did.

DOM. WILLIAM DE TEMPLOR was presented by Richard Abbot of Begeham to the vicarage of

¹⁰⁰ "Blechynton," "Blechynton." ¹⁰¹ "Colonia of Papal Registers," Vol. I, 49-50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.



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c. 1295. DOM. BOGO DE CLARE, on the death of de Blechington, claimed the rectory, apparently by grant from his predecessor, which could hardly have been made if the late rector had merely been appointed by the Prior instead of having been in possession when the advowson was granted to the Priory. He was the last secular rector, the Abbot of Bayham obtaining the rectory in 1296.

c. 1280. MASTER PETER DE HAYLESHAM was witness to William Marmion's charter and may very likely have been vicar here.

1286. LAURENCE DE LA TOUNE, vicar of Heylesham, is mentioned as one of those concerned in the forcible ejection of the Abbot of Bayham's men from the church; possibly John le Clerk of Haylesham may have been his assistant priest. He no doubt took his name from la Doune (Downash), as another later vicar did.

1288.¹⁹² DOM. WILLIAM DE TEMPLO was presented by brother Richard Abbot of Begeham to the vicarage of

¹⁹⁰ Dugdale's "Monasticon."

¹⁹¹ "Calendar of Papal Registers," Vol. I.

¹⁹² Add. MSS., 6,037, § 291.

the church of Haylesham, on the Wednesday after the feast of St. Gregory the Pope.

1305. ¹⁹³ MASTER NICHOLAS DE HEYLESHAM, possibly vicar, was ordained deacon in September.

1307. ¹⁹⁴ JOHN DE FYNDON, chaplain, was presented by Laurence Abbot of Begeham to the vicarage of the chapel of Haylesham, and was inducted by the Bishop of Chichester, 2nd February.

c. 1344—1350. ¹⁹⁵ WILLIAM DYGHRE, alias Dyer. We have already seen his sufferings at the hands of John of Buckholt; how that "conscientious objecter" persuaded him not to take tithes from his land, and even went further and "for five years from the 18th Edward III. extorted from the vicar 20^s a year," and how he on one occasion pursued the vicar with a drawn bow till he took refuge in the church and paid a fine, and how he beat and terrorized his servants so that he was left alone in his vicarage with none to wait upon him. Nor did he suffer only at the hands of this John, for in the same assize of 1352 the jurors present that "Thomas atte Castelle of Haylesham by night feloniously broke into the house of William late vicar of the church of Haylesham and robbed the said vicar of 18 pounds of silver, and rings, and buckles of gold and silver, and other jewels to the value of 100^s." He appears to have been distinctly a rich man, as: "The jurors present that William late vicar of the church of Hayllesham, who died on the Feast of All Saints 24^o Edward III. (Nov. 1st 1350), did on the Sunday next after Easter in the preceding year, in the presence of his parishioners in the church of Haylesham, leave and bequeath all his goods and chattels after his death to the service of the said church. And of these goods William atte Wodesonese of Haylesham has appropriated and unjustly detains in gold, silver, wool and other goods to the value of 100 marcs (equivalent to about £1,000 modern money) to the heavy loss and wrong of all the Queen's tenants in the parish. And the jury

¹⁹³ Winchelse Register.

¹⁹⁴ Add. MSS., 6,037, § 335.

¹⁹⁵ Assize Roll, 941.

state on their oath that William Wodesonese holds illegally 60 marcs, to the oppression of the Queen's tenants. So he is fined 10 marcs."

1351. ¹⁹⁵WALTER. Vicar at the time of the Assize, 1353:

Thomas Clerk, clerk of Walter vicar of Haylesham, on the Saturday of the vigil of St Martin (Nov. 11th) 25^e Edward III feloniously robbed the said vicar of two silver spoons worth 2^s 4^d, and a belt with silver fittings, and a knife, worth 14^d. The said Walter, Thomas atte Castell and Alan le Bakere pursued the thief to la Coppedbech (Cobeech or Cowbeech) in the Hundred of Foxerle and there captured the said Thomas le Clerk and brought him back to Haylesham with the said goods and afterwards allowed him voluntarily to go away without further prosecution,—the said Walter not knowing of his escape. And the same Walter, William Wodesonese, Thomas atte Castell and Alan on the Monday after St Martin's day illegally detained and appropriated the goods to the use of the said vicar, to the King's loss. For which Walter is fined 10 marcs; pledges, John atte Bocholt, Philip de Cessyngham and William de Mageham.

"Walter the clerk of Aylesham" also appears in another case on the same roll, in which he is associated with William Battaesford, Nicholas Curtevyll and a number of others who "went to Bernehorn and seized certain corn belonging to the Abbot of Battle to the value of £10, by the instructions of Robert Bishop of Chichester;" for which they are fined 20s. each except Nicholas Courteville, who is fined 1 marc, and Walter 4 marcs, being evidently considered to have been the leader; the Bishop is pledge for all of them.

1388. ¹⁹⁶JOHN, vicar of Aylesham, took the oath that the statutes made in the Parliament of that year should be upheld. He was probably identical with

1405. JOHN ATTE DOUNE. He was doubtless a local man and took his name from la Doune; he is mentioned in 1395 in a ¹⁹⁷"Grant by William Blakstok the younger and Joan his wife, of land in Haylesham which they had lately by the gift of John Coggere of Hellyngelegh, to John Heth clerk, John atte Doune clerk, John Wiltonesherst clerk, Richard Leghton clerk, Simon Wannok, Robert Astyn and others." A broken seal appended to

¹⁹⁵ Chancery Misc. Roll, 1^g.

¹⁹⁷ Ancient Deeds, C. 846.

this deed appears to have been a capital D with the letters i. h. c. above it, and if so, may have been the seal of this vicar. ¹⁹⁸In 1405 he exchanged to Rodmell, where he remained till 1409, when he exchanged again to St. Mary-in-the-Marsh, in diocese of Canterbury.

1405—1408. ¹⁹⁸WILLIAM STERGER, alias HAMERTON, had been appointed to Rademelde in 1403 and was admitted to the perpetual vicarage of Haylesham, July 18, 1405, by exchange.

1408—1409. ¹⁹⁸JOHN RICHER, chaplain, was admitted to the perpetual vicarage of Haylesham, vacant by death of William Hamerton, on presentation of Thomas Curteys sup-prior of Beghame and the convent of the same; March 7th, 1408.

1409. ¹⁹⁸WILLIAM BOOLE, chaplain, was admitted to the perpetual vicarage of Haylesham, vacant by death of John Rycher, February 15th, 1409. He had been rector of Aldrington in 1399.

1420. ¹⁹⁹ROBERT ROMANALE, parochial chaplain of Haylesham, and William Alysaunder, officiating chaplain, occur in a subsidy list of "Chaplains receiving 7 mares and over." This vicar is probably identical with Robert Rounale, vicar of Friston in 1418.

1429. ²⁰⁰THOMAS RATFORD exchanged to Worth.

1429. ²⁰⁰DOM. RICHARD WEBBE, chaplain, was inducted at Chichester by Master John Blounham, keeper of the spiritualities of the see of Chichester then vacant, to the perpetual vicarage of the parish church of Haylesham, in the presentation of the convent of Begham, vacant by exchange with parish church of Worthe, Dec. 11th, 1429.

1433. ²⁰¹WILLIAM DALYNGTON, vicar of Haylesham, and John Gussak, of the same parish, grant to John Blakstok and Richard Jadewyne, a messuage formerly Isabella Colyn's, bounded by the road from Whyte Dyke to Haylesham on the south, a lane called le Strete on the

¹⁹⁸ Rede Register.

¹⁹⁹ Cler. Subs., $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

²⁰⁰ Chichele Register.

²⁰¹ Ancient Deeds, C. 27.

east and north, the land of Alan Grigge on the west and the land of Robert Dawe on the north.

c. 1476—1507. THOMAS ALTOFT, or Haltoft. ²⁰² John Denysssh, Esq., of Helyngleigh, by his will dated 31st January, 147 $\frac{1}{2}$, leaves "to the vicar of Haylesham for tithes forgotten and for an obit 6^s 8^d," with a similar bequest to the vicar of Bexle and 3s. 4d. to the vicar of Erlyngton for an obit; and he makes "John my son, William Gunter and Thomas Haltoft vicar of Aylesham" his residuary legatees and executors. ²⁰³ In a visitation of Pevensey Deanery, held in 1478 by Bishop Storey in the church of Bourne, Dom. Thomas Haltofte is given as vicar of Haylesham. Amongst the deeds that I gave in the section on Magham Down was one dated 11th August, 1507, mentioning a grant of land by "Thomas Altofte late vicar of Haylesham." His will is preserved at Somerset House:

²⁰⁴ 1506. On the feast of St Andrew the Apostle on the last day of November in a certain ²⁰⁵ ground-floor parlour near the garden of the dwelling house of goodman Henry Goodwell, vintner, commonly called The Rose Taverne in the parish of St Nicholas in the Shambles in the City of London, —Thomas Altofte clerk and, as he declared, vicar of the parish church of Heillesham in the diocese of Chichester, being stricken to death with a grievous sickness, made his will in form following:

First he commended his soul to Almighty God, the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the holy saints; and his body to be buried with the rites of the church wheresoever it pleased God and his executors. Also, he left to the fabric of the church (²⁰⁶ *Basilica*) of Heillesham five pounds sterling and to the lights of the said church 3^s 4^d. Also to the Cathedral church of Chichester 2^s. Also to the fabric of the church of Helyngelegh 40^s. To the Abbot of Beham "unum lectum plumale, anglice a federbed" and ten shillings sterling, and another ten shillings to be distributed amongst the brethren of the said abbot. Also to the Prior of Michilham 6^s 8^d and another 6^s 8^d to be divided amongst his brethren. Also to the vicar of Helyngelegh 40^d, to the vicar of Wylyndon 6^s 8^d, to the vicar of Arlington 20^d. Also to the wife of

²⁰² Wattys, 28.

²⁰³ Storey Register.

²⁰⁴ Adeane, 24.

²⁰⁵ "in quadam bassa parlora prope ortum domus habitacionis honesti viri," &c. As an exact antithesis I may quote the will of John Travers, Esq., made in 1430: "in quadam alta camera Rectorie de Flechyng."

²⁰⁶ Why this unusual word should be used in this one place I do not know.

Richard Seyksall a cow, and to Ralph de Helyngelegh a steer. Also to the wife of Thomas Verges a heifer, and to Robert Knyght another heifer, and to William Funnell another, and to Robert Mattok 40^d. And to Thomas Hukbye a heifer. Also, to Anne wife of Roger Lancaster a heifer; and all the debts they owed to the said testator he entirely releases to them. The residue of his goods not disposed of above he left to William Chapell and Thomas Cockshote and makes them his executors and appointed the venerable Master Christopher Baynbrige, Master of the Rolls of the King's Chancery, to oversee that his will.—And the said testator in order, as he declared, to allay any doubts that might arise in the future, said and affirmed—which he wished should be inserted with the other premises—that he had never been executor of the will of William Weston or in any way administered his goods save that once he received five or seven nobles from Thomas Gunter, and on another occasion five pounds from Robert Goodyere, which moneys he faithfully laid out for the welfare of the soul of the said William.

Witness; Roger Lancaster gent., William Wilson brewer, Henry Goodwell vintner, residents of London, Thomas Verges and others.

Probate 26 June 1507; administration to William Chapell and Thomas Cockshote.

It is much to be regretted that he was not more thoughtful for the welfare of his church—and its historians—in which case we might have had some details of the altars and images which it contained. ✓

c. 1520—1526. ROBERT GARTON. He resigned the vicarage of Frant in 1511 and was appointed to Portslade the same year. ²⁰⁷In the visitation of Pevensey Deanery held in the church of Borne 13th September, 1521, Dom. Robert Gatton is vicar of Haylesham, Dom. Ivo Cardyve chaplain there, Dom. — ap Griffith chaplain there (possibly identical with John Griffith, who was vicar of Laughton in 1528), Richard Osborne and Thomas Harmer churchwardens. The presence of two Welsh chaplains is curious, especially when considered in connection with the thirteenth century grant of a pension in the church to the Archdeacon of St. David's, but is probably merely a coincidence.

1526—1541. ²⁰⁷RICHARD DARELL, LL.B., was admitted to the perpetual vicarage of Haylesham, vacant by death of Robert Garton, to which he was presented by the venerable Master John Higdon, D.D., Dean of the College

of Thomas Cardinal of York in the University of Oxford and the canons of the same college; Jan. 9th, 1526. He is mentioned in the "Valor Ecclesiasticus:" "Haylysham; Richard Darrell, clerk, is vicar there; net value per annum with all the profits and issues now in the tenure of Thomas Bullond—£16. 6. 8." He was a member of a good family resident in the neighbourhood of Lamberhurst, and was also rector of St. Thomas the Martyr at Winchelsea, to which he was presented in 1527. He was apparently non-resident at Hailsham, and resigned the living on obtaining the prebend of Heathfield in 1541.

John Stephanson, curate, witnessed the will of Robert Wyllard in 1528.

²⁰⁸ Thomas Meeke was probably curate here about 1535 as in an inquisition concerning Otham chapel (*q.v.*), "one Sir Thomas Meeke" is said to have been vicar before "Sir Bucklond," but as this latter was first curate and then vicar, immediately succeeding Richard Darrell, it is probable that Meeke was really curate.

1542—1554. THOMAS BUCKLAND. He was at first curate, as appears from the will of Robert Snow, 1540, who leaves "to Thomas Buckland curate of Haylesham 6^s 8^d." He succeeded to the vicarage in 1542, ²⁰⁹compounding for tithes of November 30th of that year. In 1554 he appears as witness to the will of Agnes Foster, widow, of Hailsham, and in the same year became vicar of Bodiam.

1554—1581. ²⁰⁹ JOHN OLDFIELD, compounded for tithes 12th April, 1554. "John Oldfylde clerk" witness to will of William Onstye 1570, and to other wills of the same period. It was during his vicarship that the riot in the church occurred, but as he retained office till his death he cannot have been very strongly attached to the forms of the old religion.

1582. ²¹⁰ REGINALD BOURCEY, "clericus verbi Dei," was admitted by the Archbishop—the see of Chichester being vacant—to the perpetual vicarage of Haylesham, vacant

²⁰⁸ Add. MSS., 5, 681.

²⁰⁹ Composition Books.

²¹⁰ Grindall Register, 503.

by the death of John Oldfield, to which he was presented by Edward Gage, of Bentley, Esquire, 19th October, 1582. He compounded for tithes 13th February, 158 $\frac{3}{4}$. But apparently the Archbishop subsequently discovered that the presentation had not been made within the necessary time—six months—after the death of the last vicar, and was consequently void.

1583—1590. ²¹¹THOMAS FINKELL, clerk, was admitted to the perpetual vicarage of the church of Haylesham on the presentation of the Archbishop, to whom the patronage had on this occasion lapsed; 29th March, 1583: And the Archbishop ordered Reginald Bursey, clerk, who is putting forward a claim to the said vicarage, to be cited to show cause why Thomas Fynkell should not be inducted into full possession of the said parish church. Thomas Finkell was vicar of Eastbourne in 1580.

1590—1625. ²⁰⁹MILES HODGSON compounded for tithes 26th February, 1590. And for the tithes of Westham in October, 1592. His answers to the ²¹²inquiry addressed to all the churches of the diocese about 1600 give some information about himself and the parish:

The Answeres of Myles Hodgson Vicar of Haylesham and Westham.

1. The number of Communicants in Hailsham is 400 or thereabout: In Westham 220.
2. There is in Hailsham one man recusant and one woman: In Westham 4 men and five women.
3. There is in Hailsham but one man and one woman that refuseth to receave y^e Communion: In Westham 5 men and 5 women.
4. I holde the Vicaridges of Hailsham and Westham, both with cure, beinge by Degree of Schoole Bachel^r of Divinitie and Chaplain to the Right Honorable the L. Buckhurst—now Lord High Treasurer of England—and thereby qualified: and the said Vicaridges do joyn both together the churches beinge distant twooe myles or there about the one from the other: the Valuacon of Hailshame in the Kinges bookes is fourteene poundes or thereabout and of Westham sixteen poundes or thereabout.

²¹¹ Grindall Register, 509.

²¹² *Penes*, Messrs. Hunt, Currey & Nicholson.

5. There is in Hailsham an impropriet parsonage endued with a vicaridge, which vicaridge is valued in the Kinges bookes as aforesaid: the same at Westham.
6. There is in Hailshame an impropriet parsonage and another in Westham the value whereof in the Kinges bookes I doe not as yet knowe.
7. The Patron of the Vicaridge of Hailshame is James Thetcher esquier; of Westham, L^d Buckhurst.

Signed Myles Hodgson.

His conscience appears to have smitten him for this plurality and he endeavours, with some success, to soften it down. The real distance between the two churches, as the crow flies, is exactly four miles, this becomes two with the saving clause, "or thereabout;" the real valuation of Hailsham is £16. 6s. 8d. and of Westham £21. 10s., so that in the latter case "or thereabout" stands for £5. 10s.!

Amongst the marriages entered in the register for 1591 is: "Myles Hodgson minister of the Word of God of Haylshame and Phillipp Puttenden at Nettelsted in Kent, 6 September." By this marriage he had four children—John, Martha, Thomas and Edward—born between 1596 and 1600. In 1602 the Hailsham register records the burial, on March 21st, of "Philypp the wyfe of M^r Myles Hodgson mynister of Godes woord in the chauncell of Westham church." By his will, dated 1625, he desired "to bee buried in Westham Chauncill" and gives "to the poore of Westham and Hailsham eache parrishe ten pounds . . . to William Radford my grandchild (probably the son of Martha) the house M^r Bexhill late dwelt in in Hailsham;" the chief legacies are to "William Thomason my son in law and Elizabeth his wife (there is no entry of the baptism of this daughter) and Miles his son." We have seen that in 1650 "Barbara and Elizabeth the heirs of Miles Thomasin" held land in Moorebrook.

Miles Hodgson was no doubt a relation of Barnaby Hodgeson of Framfield, who obtained the rectory in 1611. Both Barnaby and Miles Hodson occur in an inquisition concerning Ashdown Forest in 1610, as holding land of the manor of Maresfield. He appears, however, not to

have been a native of Sussex, as "Alumni Oxonienses" gives: "Miles Hodgesonne of Yorks, pleb. All Souls College, Matric. 28 Nov. 1581 aged 28. B.A. 6 July 1582. M.A. from New College 10 July 1584. B.D. 27 June 1594." In 1602 he became prebendary of Fittleworth. The only other notices of him that I have found are ²¹³two "Rolls of Armour appointed to be furnished by clergy." "1612 Westham and Hailsham: M^r Miles Hodson: A musquet furnished. 1620 Hailsham and Westham: M^r Miles Hodgeson (double beneficed) 2 musquets furnishte."

Thomas Wood was curate from 1602, or earlier, to 1613. His son Thomas was buried in 1602, and three daughters—Damaris, Debora and Judeth—were baptised between 1608 and 1611; he was buried July 17th, 1613.

Desire Smith, minister, married Elizabeth Barbar in 1614 and was curate till his death in 1623. Desire, his son, was baptised May 1st, 1617; there was also a daughter, as appears from the will of Elias Swane, 1629, who leaves "to Elizabeth daughter of Desire Smith clerke lately deceased, being my goddaughter, five pounds." In 1622 Mary Tindall, widow, appoints as overseer of her will "my well beloved frend Desire Smith of Hailsham clerk." His burial is recorded on Jan. 17th, 162 $\frac{3}{4}$. "Des. Smith" appears as witness to an indenture of apprenticeship in 1615, and again in 1623, the name being in both cases in a clear and very "flourishous" hand.

1626. ²¹⁴BRIAN DUPPA compounded for tithes of Hailsham and Westham in April. Resigned the living the same year on being appointed to Withyham. He was son of Jeffrey Dappa, vicar of Lewisham, in Kent, born 1588; student of Christ Church, Oxford, in 1605; D.D. in 1625; Dean of Christ Church 1629 and Vice-Chancellor of Oxford in 1632; appointed tutor to Prince Charles, who seems to have retained an affection for him till his death in 1662. In 1638 he was made Bishop of Chichester and was translated in 1641 to Salisbury, of which he

was deprived by the Parliament. At the Restoration he was translated to Winchester, which see he held till his death; he was buried in Westminster Abbey.

Stephen Herbert was curate at this time, William Royden by his will of 1626 leaving "to Master Stephen Herbert Curat of Hailsham 6^s 8^d." He may have been identical with ²¹⁵ "Stephen Herbert; B.A. from Jesus College 6 July 1609, M.A. 9 July 1612; was allowed to count some terms at Cambridge."

1626—1628. ²¹⁴ JOHN WALWIN compounded for tithes 28th January, 162⁶/₇. This was not quite the first living he had held, as his name appears at Wisboro' 1587, Arundel 1591, Withiham 1596, Fletching 1597, East Grinstead 1598 and Heathfield 1610.

1628—1650. ²¹⁴ WILLIAM OSBORNE compounded for tithes 30th May, 1628. The baptisms of four of his children, William, Elizabeth, Nathaniel and Samuel, occur between 1630 and 1637; Elizabeth (or another daughter) married Henry Coby, gentleman. He was ejected in Michaelmas, 1650.

John Smith was curate in 1633, as the baptism of John, his son, took place that year. This son became vicar of Hellingly in 1663 and his son, John, was baptised at Hailsham in 1678.

1650—1660. JOHN LOVER was apparently in holy orders and was only about 24 when put into the living, as he is styled "John Lover of Hailsham clerk, aged 37 or upwards," in a deposition of 1663. He was already married when he came to the parish, as "Anne Lovare daughter of John Lovar minister of the parish of Hailsham," was baptised in August, 1651. Just over two years later he married again, consent of marriage being published 11th December, 1653, and two weeks following, between "Mr John Lover of this parish, son of John Lover of Glynde yeoman, and Suzanna Diplocke daughter of Robert Diplocke of this parish yeoman:—They were married at Haylsham 27 December 1653 by James Temple Esq." By this marriage he had issue Marie,

²¹⁵ "Alumni Oxonienses."

Anne and John between 1654 and 1660. At the Restoration he was ejected, and a notice of him is given in "the Nonconformist's Memorial:"

Haylsham [V.] M^r John Lover. He was presented at the Bishop's court and convicted at the quarter sessions, on the statute (the Act of Uniformity), of £20 a month, for not going to church, till submission and conformity. This conviction with many others was returned into the Exchequer in order to the estreating the respective forfeitures. When the plague was in London he, with others, being met for fasting and prayer at a house in Cranbrook parish in Kent, a justice, who was afterward more moderate, came in upon them. He required M^r Lover to go by his horse side to the town 3 miles off in a deep and dirty way (this must have reminded him of his late parish) till one engaged for his appearance. M^r Lover and some others were committed to Maidstone jail, where they underwent two months imprisonment.

He afterwards returned to Hailsham, where in 1675 he made his will: "to my three children John, Thomas and Elizabeth the summe of £300 to be paid at their respective ages of 21 years to be equally divided. My loving wife Suzanna to receive the interest of the said £300, so long as she continue a widow, towards the bringing up of the said children: if she change her condition she is to have only £12 of the said interest. . . . I further will that my Library be sold for the Payment of my Debts. . . . To Elizabeth Deane 5^s, to Richard Smith 5^s. . . . Henry Coby of Hailsham and John Durrant of Hellingly to be overseers." [Probate April, 1683.] It is worth noting that Henry Coby, whom he appoints as one of his overseers, was son-in-law to the vicar whose place he had taken. Mr. John Lover was buried 24th September, 1682.

1660—1701. ²¹⁶ JOHN WENHAM was presented to the living by Lord Dorset and instituted 27 October, 1660. He was a member of a Ninfield family, who bore for arms: Paly of 6 *arg.* and *gu.* on a chief *az.* a lion passant of the 1st ducally crowned *or.* His father, John Wenham of Moorehall in Ninfield, who had married Ann, daughter of Sir Francis Needham, made his will in 1657, leaving "To my son John Wenham 20^s; to my son in law Robert Harrison 20^s; to my son in law Henry Mountague 20^s

(Henry, son of Henry Montague, vicar of Laughton, and Mary his wife, was baptised at Hailsham, 1665); to my son in law William Benbrigg 20^s . . . my grandchildren John and George Wenham . . . Remainder to my loving grandchild John Wenham and his heirs (he was buried in 1676)." His mother was buried at Hailsham in 1667, and his wife Elizabeth in 1696; his son George became a clergyman and was rector of Rotherfield in 1724. He himself was buried on July 4th, 1701.

1701—1753. ²¹⁶THOMAS HOOPER, M.A., of University College, Oxford, instituted 10th September, 1701; rector of Beckley, where he resided. A visitation of the church in 1724 has been given in the last chapter, and the evils of a non-resident vicar are pretty evident from the statement that the Sacrament was then only administered four times in the year, and that the communicants numbered 40 (instead of the 400 of a century earlier).

John Cittizen was curate in 1724, and in the register of January, 1702, there is an entry signed by him against the burials of John Head of Icklesham and Catherine Crowherst, "Rec^d of both these persons 6 shillings for the Break of the Ground a Coustome Rec^d by my predecessors." He became vicar of Westham 1741.

1753—1769. ²¹⁶ODIARNE HOOPER, B.C.L., of University College, Oxford, was instituted 10 July, 1753. He had been vicar of Mayfield in 1730, and rector of East Guldeford in 1736, resigning the latter living on his appointment to Hailsham. He resided in the parish, and his epitaph declares that he was "a truly pastoral vicar."

1770—1804. ²¹⁶THOMAS HOOPER, LL.B., was instituted 12th February, 1770. He was rector of Beckley, where he resided, and became prebendary of Seaford in 1785. The following were curates under him:

William Woodward, 1770 to 1771, when he became vicar of Plumpton.

Hugh Lewis, temporarily only, 1772; vicar of Folkington 1779.

John Pryse, 1772—1779.

John Thompson, 1780—1788.

Herbert Jones, 1788—1791.

Thomas Hubbersty, 1791—1793: a monument to his memory in the chancel.

George Haygarth, 1794—1803: vicar of Hooe 1803, Wivelsfield 1806.

1805—1839. ²¹⁶RICHARD CONSTABLE, M.A., instituted 19th April, 1805. Held also the vicarage of Cowfold and was non-resident. Had been vicar of Selmeston from 1785 to 1801. His curates were:

William Morgan, 1804—1809.

Arthur Gibson, 1809—1810.

John Gibson, 1810—1812.

Charles Cay, 1812.

Alfred Barker, 1813—1819: published a volume of sermons at the Hailsham press in 1815.

Thomas Robinson Welch, 1819—1839.

1839—1843. GEORGE POCKOCK, B.C.L., was patron as well as incumbent and resided at Hailsham during the four years that he held the living.

1843—1846. ²¹⁷JOHN HOBART CAUNTER, B.D. Born at Dittisham, in Devonshire, in 1794; went to India as a cadet about 1809, but "having discovered, much to his disappointment, nothing on the continent of Asia to interest him," came back and studied at Cambridge for the ministry. He was 19 years incumbent of St. Paul's Chapel, Foley Place, Marylebone, and was chaplain to the Earl of Thanet. He was resident during the time that he held the vicarage of Hailsham, and in 1846 took a lease of a proprietary chapel at Kennington. At the time of his death in November, 1851, he was curate of Prittlewell.

He wrote a number of books, of which his "Romance of History: India," published in three volumes in 1836 and reprinted in 1872, was the most important. His other works varied from "St. Leon, a Drama in Three Acts," and "The Fellow Commoner, a Novel," to "An Inquiry into the History and Character of Rahab." The only work produced during his residence at Hailsham was "The Triumph of Evil, a Poem," published in 1845.

George Pinnock (vicar of East Dean in 1847) appointed a churchwarden and signed the minutes as chairman of the vestry in 1846.

1846—1872. GEORGE GAYTON HARVEY, B.A. of St. John's College, Cambridge, formerly curate of Doncaster,

²¹⁷ This notice is condensed from the "National Dictionary of Biography."

and vicar of Horton in Staffs and Winster in Derby, was presented to the vicarage of Hailsham by his father-in-law, Thomas Sheppard, Esq., of Folkington Place.

His curates were :

Constantine Frere, 1847.

Henry Parminter, 1849—1851 : Naval chaplain from 1852—1868, and subsequently vicar of Humshaugh-on-Tyne.

John D. Carey, 1858—1860.

W. R. James, 1860—1863.

W. J. Underwood, 1863—1865.

George M. Love, 1867—1868.

Alexander Beaufort Grimaldi, 1869—1872; afterwards chaplain at Capri.

1872. FRANCIS CLYDE HARVEY, M.A. of Trin. Coll., Camb., B.A. (2nd class Theo. dist. in Hebrew) 1867, M.A. 1870; curate of New Radford, Notts, 1868—1872. Succeeded his father in 1872 and is the present vicar—and long may he remain so!

Curates :

George William Crofts Ward, B.A., 1884—1887.

William James Clay, B.A., 1887—1900 : Curate-in-charge, Broadwell (Glouc.) 1901.

Herbert Kitley, 1900.

Curates-in-Charge at Polegate :

Samuel Fisher Akroyd, M.A., 1876—1887; now vicar of Crowborough.

William Leach Groves, M.A., 1887—1889; formerly missionary in China.

George Jepson, M.A., 1889—1893.

William Clifford Aston, M.A., 1893—1895.

James Thomas Taylor, M.A., 1895.

One noticeable fact about the Hailsham vicars is their longevity; omitting Robert de Blechingdon, who appears to have been rector for nearly 70 years, six vicars held the living more than 30 years,—a circumstance which would be an excellent testimonial to the healthiness of the parish were it not for the fact that four out of the six were non-resident. A period of 93 years (1660—1753) was covered by two vicars, and the three Hoopers held the living for over a century between them. ✓

CHURCHWARDENS.

There are in the church chest a large number of Indentures of Apprentices from the time of Elizabeth, which give the names of a great many churchwardens of the seventeenth century, and others occur in the registers and elsewhere. In the following list, down to 1700, when the source from which the name is taken is not given, it is derived from the indentures. From 1700, contrary to what one might have expected, the list is so fragmentary and incomplete as not, in my opinion, to be worth the space it would occupy. The form of the indenture is practically the same in all cases, the master undertaking that the apprentice shall not be chargeable to the parish for a certain number of years and promising "by the best meanse hee can or may to teach and caus his apprentic to bee instruct in (whatever his trade may be), giving him Dew and fitting Coraction and alsoe finding and allowing meate, drinck, washing, loging, aparrell and all other things nesenary and belonging to such an apprentice as well in sickness as in health dewring the said Terme: and in the end of the said tearme to give him two hoale shutes of good and deesent wearing aparrell of all sorts as well linnen as Wollen one for working days the other for the Lords daies meete and convenient," the apprentice undertaking not to frequent taverns, play cards or dice, or inordinately waste his master's goods.

- 1594. Thomas Snowe and John Gurr.
- 1599. Hugh Franckewell and Edmund Buckherst: signed the register.
- 1601. Nicholas Copper and Gregory Wimshurste.
- 1602. Richard Maye and John Kenchslly.
- 1605. John Bodle and John Collyer: associated with Edward Akehurst and Laurence Thatcher, overseers, in indenture of Annes Allehin (a corruption probably of Alchorne) to Thanckfull Farncome husbandman and Anna his wife.
- 1606. Richard Kencheley and William Painter.
- 1607. Thomas Sawyer and Richard Hamblen.
- 1608. Nicholas Bodle and Thomas Pimm: register.
- 1609. Edmund Waterhouse of Magham quarter and Thomas Bodle the younger out of Towne quarter: register.
- 1612. Thomas Akehurste.

- (1614. Stephen Foster was parish clerk: register.)
 1615. Richard Cockshutt and Nicholas Henseman.
 1616. Abraham Bodle and John Daniell.²¹⁸
 1617. Richard Baker and Edward Painter.
 1619. John Gurr and Edward Akehurst.
 1620. Edward Akehurst and Thomas Bodle: Eliz. Burgesse apprenticed to John Hunte, bucketmaker.
 1623. John Reade and Thomas Bodle.
 1627. Richard Maye and Abraham Kenchley: Mary daughter of Henry Purple apprenticed to Wm. Hodye, Broadweaver, and Abigaile Smyth of Gowdehurst in Kent.
 1631. Thomas Cockshott and Richard Hamblin.
 1635. Robert Diplocke and John Humphrie.
 1638. John Bathee and Robert Collingham: register.
 1639. William Lullam "hosher," and Abraham Bodle, "chantler."
 (1643. John Pardon was parish clerk: register.)
 1651. Elias Swane and Thomas Bodle.
 1653-4. John Caukett and William Reade.
 1655-6. William Reede, Thomas Bedford and Edward Fry.
 — George Funnell and Edmond Ede: during the Commonwealth.
 1663. Jeremiah Reed, John Rucke and Thomas Ackehurste; on one of the bells.
 1668. John Page and John Edburrough.
 1673. Michael Humphrey and Jarvis Bexhill.
 1675-6. John Bodle and William Goodwin: Ursula Hibberden apprenticed to Wm. Reed shoemaker.
 1677. Thomas Hilder gent. and Jarvaise Bexhill: Eliz. Hubberden apprenticed to Thomas May of St Olaves Surrey, mariner, and Eliz. his wife—to learn household work.
 1680. John Woods and John Bennet: Daniel Goffe apprenticed to Jarvaise Bexhill yeoman.
 1685. William Bodle and William Skinner.
 1686. Richard Miller and William Tindall.
 (1689. Thomas Height, parish clerk, buried.)
 (1690. John Woods, parish clerk: register.)
 1696-7. Samuel Gyles and Edward Knight.
 1699. Samuel Gyles mercer, Edward Knight glover: with Thomas Colbrand chirurgeon, Abraham Bodle yeoman and Edward Fryer yeoman overseers of the poor.
 1700. Nicholas Senocke and Thomas Clifforde.

Amongst the later churchwardens I shall only mention two; in 1814 Francis Howlett,²¹⁹ "comedian, schoolmaster, postmaster, tax-collector, vestry clerk, printer,

²¹⁸ John Daniell, yeoman, by his will of 1620 left: "to the maintenance of the Church of Hailsham 6^s 8^d . . . to Abraham Kentsley my brother land without the landgate at Rye;" mention of "Richard Brushudd of Haylsham taylor."

²¹⁹ "Our Parish."

travelling librarian, musician and general referee." He was "one of a party of strolling players who arrived in the place on a professional tour," and settling here became the first master of the school, then held in the vestry. From 1827 to 1845 Richard King Sampson was churchwarden; he was one of the leading men of the place and a great sportsman—there is an engraving, taken from a portrait by Henwood of Lewes, representing him with his horse and his favourite hound "Druid"—and Geering devotes a considerable portion of a chapter of "Our Parish" to his memory.

CHAPTER X.

HAVING finished with the topographical and ecclesiastical portion of our history the genealogical remains to be examined; and for this purpose I shall first give a number of lists of the inhabitants at various dates and then, in the next chapter, consider some of the more important families in detail. Of these lists the first is a ²²⁰subsidy of 1332:

Vill of Haylesham.		s.	d.		s.	d.
Simon ate Beche	.....	5	1½	John Hubert	.....	1 9
William Scot	.....	2	11	Alfred Kanel	.....	1 10
William Haylward	....	6	10½	William Warnesals	....	1 2¼
Robert Mabely	.....	6	9½	William Bertyn	.....	11
Nicholas de Boggelegh	..	3	5¼	Ralph Broggs	.....	1 0¾
Alexander de Boggelegh		3	2	Robert Berewyk	.....	10¼
Bartholomew de Boggelegh	.....	9	0½	Thomas Tuberele	.....	1 0½
Richard de Bolene	.....	4	0¼	William de Hemsted	....	3 2¾
Thomas Tanner	.....	4	1½	John Hanek	.....	1 0
John Spencer	.....	5	0½	John Brown	.....	6 8
Robert Moneth	.....	3	7	Richard Rikethon	.....	8
John Tournur	.....	2	2	Andrew Sakevyle	.....	1 7½
Peter de Wannemere	....	3	10½	Peter de Henlegh	.....	8
— Holte	.....	3	10½	Thomas Crystemasse	....	5 0
Thomas atte Tye	.....	2	0	William de Megham	....	3 0
Thomas le Melker	.....	2	0	Philip atte Diker	.....	5 0
Adam Baker	.....	1	2¼			
				Total ..	104	8¾

²²¹ William Scot is presented in the assize of 1353 for two robberies "from the house of Thomas atte Castelle in Boskeye;" Wannemere we have had several times in connection with Magham; ²²² John Melker of Morbroke occurs in a deed of 1397; the name Christmas is still found in the parish. The next list is from the Nonae Rolls of 1341, and being only nine years later naturally contains a good many of the same names; but it is much more extensive, although, with the exception of the jurors, all the names are of those resident within the Liberty portion of the parish.

INQUISITIONES NONARUM. Haylesham.

This indenture witnesseth that a court of enquiry was held at Lewes on the Monday following the Sunday of mid-Lent in the fifteenth year of the reign of King Edward, the third of that name since the conquest,

²²⁰ Lay Subsidies, 1332.

²²¹ Assize Roll, 941.

²²² "S.A.C.," Vol. XXII.

before Henry Husee and his colleagues, collectors and assessors of the ninths of sheaves fleeces and lambs, and of the fifteenth granted, in the county of Sussex, in the fourteenth year of the reign of King Edward, the third since the conquest, to the lord king, in addition to the full value of the ninths aforesaid, according to the report of the commission of the lord king aforesaid, drawn up by H. and his colleagues on the oath of Peter de Wannemme, Robert le Mous, Robert Chyterne, Thomas Melker, Philip ate Dykere, Alexander Boglegh, Simon Holt, and Richard Cokesych, parishioners of the church of Haylesham, jurors and investigators who state on their oath, that; the ninth part of the sheaves of the parish aforesaid is worth this year, xxxviii^s vj^d; the ninth of fleeces vj^d, and the ninth of lambs xij^d. Total of sheaves fleeces and lambs xl^s.

Item: they state that the Abbot of Begeham holds lands in the said parish, from which, the ninth of sheaves is worth this year xiiij^s, the ninth of fleeces iiij^s vj^d, and the ninth of the lambs is worth this year ij^s vj^d.

Item they state that men of the Liberty of the Cinque Ports hold land in the said parish, from which the ninth of sheaves is worth this year xxiiij marks and a half, the ninth of the fleeces of the same men x^s, and the ninth of lambs x^s, of which, the share of John Lytlewaite is xx^s, of John Lewyne x^s, of John Hakham xvj^s.

Item John Reeve xij^d, Item William Crop' xx^s, Item Robert Keppynge xij^d, Item Robert Crop xx^s, Item Thomas Bartholmeu ij^s, Item Thomas Brake xl^d, Item William Trapel senior xvj^s, Item William Wyllard half a mark, Walter Carpunter ij^s, John Bertelot x^s, Edmund Godwyn j mark, Item John Austman x^s, Simon Edyne v^s, John Carpunter v^s, John Melker iiij^s, Item Mark Austman ij^s, Item John Bolene half a mark, Joseph Tropel half a mark, John Frye xl^d, Nicholas ate Doune j mark, Item Simon Batelesford xx^s, Item John ate Bernette xx^s, Item Thomas ate Wode xx^s, Item John Wyllard ij^s, Item William ate Walle ij^s, Item Nicholas Neushall j mark, Item Stephen Wythend j mark, Richard Aleman j mark, John Schakelok v^s, Item Simon Austman xij^d, Item John Edyne xl^d, Item John Bertram v^s, Item John Schepherd xl^d, Item Walter Reynold ij^s, Item Simon Gobb ij^s, Item Simon Wynd xij^d, Item Simon Wythot x^s, Item Simon Pye ij^s, William Pye half a mark, Philip ate Bergh v^s, Item Simon Portreve j mark, Item Roger Gyngeld half a mark, Item Simon Erco xij^d, Item John Crop ij^s, Item Bartholomew Wythot xij^d, Item John ate Crouche xl^d, Robert Ronte ij^s, Item Nicholas Monya half a mark, Item Maurice Mulshale xij^d, Item William Taylor iiij^s, Item William de Walle ij^s, Item John Lyon xl^d, Item Robert Longe senior x^s, Item Robert Longe junior xx^s, Item John Osebarn xij^d, Item Simon Osebarn xij^d, William Osebarn xij^d, Item Walter Goudrod xij^d, Richard ate Hoke xij^d, Item James Alfryrch xij^d, Item Richard Stambler xij^d, Item John Longe v^s, Item Simon Reynold x^s, Item John Averay xl^d, Item John Goodegrom v^s, Item Thomas Ate Flote v^s, Item John Edmund ij^s, Item Will Byker xl^d, Item Henry Bolenee ij^s, Simon Musket ij^s.

And so the total of all the sheaves, fleeces and lambs in the parish aforesaid, together with the ninths of the Abbot of Begeham, and the ninths of the men of the Liberty aforesaid, is xxvjⁱⁱ vj^s viij^d.

Item, they state that the ninth of sheaves, fleeces and lambs cannot be made up to the assessment of the aforesaid church, which is assessed with the vicarage at liij marks, because the rector of the same church holds a messuage and land worth per annum xl^s from which the aforesaid church is endowed. Item, they state that the vicar of the church aforesaid has the offerings of hay and hemp and the other small tithes, which are worth per annum vj^{li} vj^s viij^d.

Item, they state that there are not in the parish aforesaid any who are engaged in commerce, but they live by their agriculture. Item, they state that there are not there any Cardinals' or bishops' benefices. In witness of which, the aforesaid jurors have attached their seals to this indenture, on the above mentioned day and year.

Five out of the eight jurors occur in the previous list; Robert Chyteryne may be identical with Robert Chyterugge, Constable of the hundred of Thylle in 1353—a William Chyterigge occurs in an ²²³inquisition at Hailsham in 1371. It is noticeable that by this time most of the surnames are genuine patronymics, the number of de and atte being small, and in those cases where these prefixes are retained they are for the most part inherited rather than personal. The gradual change in the character of surnames is shown by Alexander Bogeleghe and John Bolene, in both of which names the de appeared in the earlier list, and by a similar change le Melker becomes Melker; a slightly different process is visible in the conversion of the ate Hoke of this survey into Hokeby and probably Hokeman, and ate Crouche into Croucher. Our next ²²⁴list is again of the Barons of the Cinque Ports resident in Hailsham, in 1373:

	s.	d.		s.	d.
William Holt	1	0	*John Lyttelwalte	1	6
John Musket		2	William Lewyne	9	6
*William Bertelot	5	10	Henry Bolne	1	0
*John Austeman	3	0	Simon Wythoth	1	6
John Carpenter	1	8	Robert Sayer		8
John atte Berghe		4	Alexander Bertyn		7
*Walter atte Wode	1	8	Walter Oseburn		2
*Simon Bolne		4	Simon Buskheye		4
Nicholas Keppynge		3	Roger Willard	3	6
*John Frie	1	0	the same	1	0
Nicholas Frye		1	Richard Willard		6
*William Alfrych	1	0	John atte Lynd		2
Reginald Longhe	1	6			
Robert Stonleghe		2	Total ..	39	10

²²³ Add. MSS., 6,168.²²⁴ Lay Subsidies, 235.

William Lewyne, whose payment is so much in excess of the others, was bailiff of Endlenwyk, and William Bertelot, who comes next to him, signs himself in 1379 bailiff (of Hailsham) when witnessing, with William Holt and Walter atte Wode, a ²²⁵ grant by Robert Sayer to Simon Wytots: Bushkey, the Boskeye mentioned above, is Bushey Field. The names with asterisks also occur in a similar ²²⁶ list of 1384, on which the other names are: William and John Bothel, John Somer, Thomas and John Willard, Robert and John Mersale, Andrew Burgeys, Robert Wyberd, Henry Bertyn, Matilda Lomb, Thomas Osebarn, Thomas Vurgine, Matilda Heyward, William Bernette and Matilda Wynan.

²²⁷ In 1450 the following barons of Pevensey resident in Hailsham obtained exemption from payment of a subsidy: Thomas atte Wode, John Hamond, Thomas Wythot, Thomas Knyth, John Longe, Matthew atte Wode, Miles Mason, John Osbarn, John and William Hokeby and Alice atte Wode. William Hokeby as constable of the hundred was involved in Cade's rebellion, as was also John Osbarn. And in a ²²⁸ clerical subsidy apparently of some 30 years later the church and vicarage of Haylesham are rated to pay 69s. 4d., a deduction of 21s. 6d. being allowed "for goods and chattels of barons of the Cinque Ports in the Liberty of Pevense viz. Thomas atte Wode, John Reder sen^r., John Hamond, John Sharp, John Bodyhame, John Colyn, John Reder jun^r., John Garslonde, John Wythot, William Bernet, John Mersale, Robert Tut, Galfrid Threill, John Liuet, Thomas Joop, John Ossebarn, John Cook, John Gardyn and Robert Alfrich."

The next item is more interesting, being the ²²⁹ Muster Roll for the "Hundrethe of Dyll" in 1539, giving a list of men able to bear arms—in this point the borough of Isenhurst, the northern division of the hundred, comes easily first, possessing no fewer than 22 bill-men to five in Hellingly and four in Hailsham—and of armour available.

²²⁵ Add. Charter, 24,286.

²²⁷ Lay Subsidies, 226.

²²⁶ Lay Subsidies, 182.

²²⁸ Cler. Subsidies, 118.

²²⁹ State Papers, Henry VIII.

The Borowe of Haylisham

able bowe men	{	Henry Baker a bowe and a sheff of arrowes.
		Thomas Gostelyn a bowe and a sheff of arrowes.
		John Dene.
		John Wimble.
able bill men	{	Edmunde Foster a bill and a bowe
		John a Gate
		Richard Tutt
		Thomas Frye
unable men having harness	{	Nicholas Willard a pare of ²⁸⁰ almen revets lackying a salet
		John Frye a bowe and a sheff of arrowes
		John Foster a payer of Almon revets complet a bowe a bill and a polle axe
		Thomas Snowe a bowe and a sheff of arrowes
		Thomas Twisden a bill and a paier of ²⁸¹ splints
		Thomas Bodle a bowe and half a sheff of arrowes
		John Pinson a bill
		Richard a Wodd a bowe and a sheff of arrowes
		Robert Nycholson a bowe.
		Thomas Pers a bill.
		Thomas Swane a bill.
		John a See a bill.
		Robert Roo a bill.
		William a Downe a bill.

The somme of bowe men 4.

bill men 4.

almon revets complet 2 payers lacking a salet bowes 9.

sheffs of arrowes 5½

bills and poll axes 10

the odd splints 1 payer.

The following is a list of all the names occurring in the parish registers from 1558 to 1561 inclusive:

Ackerherst	Bromeham	Collyer	Durrant	Funell
A' Gates	Brook	Comber	Edwards	Gardner
Baker	Bryrely	Cowper	Ellyat	Goselade
Ballard	Bryante	Croker	Esterfild	Gower
Barnden	Bush	Crowch	Fayerway	Gregory
Bayes	Byshopp	Daltone	Foote	Grenefield
Benden	Chadwick	Darbye	Foster	Gubbard
Bodell	Clarke	Death	French	Gyles
Bonycke	Cockshott	Dickson	Frencham	Gynner
Branden	Coker	Drew	Frye	Harbart
Brereton	Colbourne	Dunstone	Frytter	Harmer

²⁸⁰ Almain Revets=light armour rivetted or buckled in the German fashion, so as to be easily unfastened; a salet=a helmet.

²⁸¹ Splints=*garde à bras*=armour to protect the arms.

Harris	Lande	Randall	Stocke	Wachman
Harwood	Luccas	Rede	Stubley	Wakeham
Hills	Lucke	Reder	Swayne	Walker
Hoad	Martyne	Ren	Tanner	Warde
Holland	Maunder	Robarts	Tayllor	Waterhouse
Hollybone	Mersall	Rolffe	Tharpe	Watte
Hooke	More	Roster	Thomas	Whyte
Hubbard	Mott	Russell	Thunder	Willard
Hunte	Myddeltone	Shepherde	Tomelyn	Wood
Inskyp	Nicholas	Smyth	Treglas	²⁸³ Wyddett
²⁸² Irygge	Osborne	Smythson	Turk	Wyckins
Jurye	Packham	Snowe	Tutt	Wyggyn
Kenchslye	Peylpott	Spynner	Twysden	Wygsell
Kyngswyll	Pynelyn	Stamnener	Unstye	Wynter

The two appendices at the end of this volume—Marriages from 1558 to 1600, and Consents of Marriage during the Commonwealth—also afford a considerable number of names for a slightly later period. The Hearth Tax, in the time of Charles II., should afford information as to the standing of different families at that date, but the portion referring to this part of Sussex appears unfortunately to be lost, so we pass on to 1705, in which year the Poll Book gives the names of some fifty voters in Hailsham.

John Hicks	Thomas Fuller gent.	Richard Greystock
Edward Bodle	Richard Milton	Thomas Weston
Edmund Eades	John Gringoe	John Copper
Thomas Colebrand	John Miller	Thomas Drew
Thomas Clifford	William Body	Samuel Waters
Oliver Mills	John Tutt gent.	Samuel Gyles
Francis Botting	George Pupp	Nicholas Sinnock
John Woods	John Clark	John Oxley
William Woods	Robert Hamlyn	Robert Richardson
Thomas Jenkin gent.	Edward Brasier	Thomas Taylor
Thomas Mascall	Stephen Parks	Ferdinando Bryan
Mathew Wakelyn	Thomas Medley jun ^r	John Browne
Edmund Elphick	gent.	William Akehurst
Thomas Pollington	John Lenham	John Browning
William Gunner	Edward Boyse	Michael Woods
William Tindall	Richard Krawle	²⁸⁴ Anthony Trumble
John Tettershall, clerk	Abraham Cooper	gent.

²⁸² Thomas de Iriche was juror for Dill c. 1315 (Assize Roll, 946), and possibly Robert de Yweregge of a slightly earlier period gives the original form of the name; John Erridge occurs on the Michelham Court Rolls of 1700.

²⁸³ The earlier form of this name is Wythoth.

²⁸⁴ Several references to Mr. Anthony Trumble will be found in the Pelham MSS. (Add. MSS., 33,058); in 1707 Lord Pelham appointed him his deputy "to attend yearly at the Opposal of Sheriffs at the Court of Exchequer to challenge and procure all fines, &c., happening within the Duchy of Lancaster and Rape of Pevensey;" and in 1722 he was under sheriff of Sussex.

Finally, I have transcribed from the Churchwardens' Accounts the full assessment of the parish for 1780; this gives a complete list of all the landowners and the value of their holdings, and is also valuable for the number of field names mentioned.

Hailsham Foreign Poor Book, First 2 Quarters of 1780
at 2/3 in the £

		Rent. £ s.	£ s.	d.
Mr. George Alfrey	Part of Northlee	4 10	10	1½
	Months and Greatwicks .	31	3 9	9
Mas ^r John Askew	For his House £1 10 0			
Mr. Wm Allen	For his House	3	6	9
Mr. Baxshall	For Luxfords Land	10	1 2	6
	42 Acres of Marsh Land.	39	4 7	9
	Part Gildredge Farm ..	6	13	6
Mr. John Bodle	For his Farm.....	25	2 16	3
Mr. John Bristow sen ^r ..	Welshes	1 10	3	4½
	Part of Nockhatch	4 10	10	1½
	Northamtons	30	3 7	6
	Merrifield Stocks and Coldthorne	30	3 7	6
Mr. John Bristow jun ^r ..	Lymarks.....	8	18	0
	Holbron Hill	8	18	0
Mr. Barton	Hywood Field	3	6	9
	32 Acres Marsh Land ..	35	3 18	9
Mr. Butler.....	Late Pages Farm	3	6	9
Mrs. Clarke	House and Land ...	12	1 7	0
Mr. Tho ^s Colbrand	Boneys	24	2 14	0
	Brooks	7 10	16	10½
	Collinghams	6	13	6
	Jesshams	25	2 16	3
	Pookhold	9	1 0	3
Mr. Wm Colbrand	Bearfields [To Mr. Hurdis £9].....	7 10	16	10½
Mr. Curle	His House	2	4	6
Mr. Clapson	His House	1 10	3	4½
	His Land	12	1 7	0
Mr. Carey jun ^r	Coppards	15	1 13	9
	late Elphicks	2	4	6
Mrs. Crowhurst	Vineals	7 10	16	10½
Mr. Hy. Crowhurst	P ^t of Ockley Wood	4 10	10	1½
Mr. Carder	His Farm	21	2 7	3
	Tattersalls [£9]	10	1 2	6
Mr. Collins	Teal Marshes.....	40	4 10	0
Mr. Collier	Land at Tile lodge	20	2 5	0
Mr. Coleman	His House	2	4	6
Widow Daw	Her House.....	1 10	3	4½
Mr. W ^m English	For thawyers.....	35	3 18	9

		Rent.		£	s.	d.
		£	s.			
— Fuller Esq.	Northeath	6			13	6
Mr. Freeman	Marshfoot	43		4	16	9
	Cruttendens	20		2	5	0
Mr. Gilbert	P ^t of Ockley Wood	4	10		10	1½
Mr. Richard Gouldsmith	House	2			4	6
	Plumers Land	14		1	11	6
Mr. Jno. Gower	Wrattens House	1	10		3	4½
The Rev ^d Mr. Hooper ..	Parsonage	39		4	7	9
	Milland	15		1	13	9
Mr. Rich ^d Hamlin	His House and Farm ..	28	10	3	4	1½
Mr. Holmwood	the Hale	4			9	0
	Brays Wish	12			7	0
Mr. Hurdis	House and Croft	6			13	6
	Stonestreetes	9		1	0	3
	Wilpins	1	10		3	4½
	[Bearfields	9]				
Mr. James Hilder	P ^t of Downash	50		5	2	6
Mr. Henry Huneysett ..	Coggers	3			6	9
Mr. Hapgood	His House	1			2	3
Mr. Huggett	His House	3			6	9
Mr. Henry Hastings ..	Groves and Limers	27		3	0	9
	the Pins	4			9	0
	House and Plots	3			6	9
	Spencers & Mr. H. Mason	40		4	10	0
Mr. Hollands	Boot House	1	10		3	4½
Mr. John Jenner	Morriss's Land	6			13	6
Mr. Walter Jenner	House and Croft	1	10		3	4½
Mr. Thomas James	His House	1	10		3	4½
Mr. Jno. Inskip	His House	1			2	3
Mr. Geo. Inskip	His House	1			2	3
Mr. James Jenner	His House	2			4	6
Mr. Knieves	Vigors	3			6	9
Mr. Henry King	House	1			2	3
Mr. Wm. King	Northlee	7	10		16	10½
	Speakes	4			9	0
Mrs. Luxford	Her House	6			13	6
	Vernons	7	10		16	10½
Mr. Laugham	Grasstocks	43	10	4	17	10½
	Doubles Land	2	10		5	7½
	Knights Field	15			1	8½
	Reeds Land £22	18	0	2	0	6
	Boys Land	7	10		16	10½
	Ridwells	6			13	6
Mr. Rich ^d Lamb	Poundfields	50		5	12	6
Geo. Medley Esq.	Hawkes Wood	4	10		10	1½
Mr. Gerrad Mason	Rushey Marshes	30		3	7	6
Mr. Henry Mason	Doubles Wood	4	10		10	1½
	the Dens	10	10	1	3	7½
	Northley	10		1	2	6
	[Spencers &c	40]				

		Rent.		£	s.	d.
		£	s.			
Mr. John Matthews....	Grasstocks	15		1	13	9
Mr. Merricks.....	His House	5			11	3
Mr. W ^m Mainard	His House	1	10		3	4½
	His Field	1			2	3
Martin	His House	3			6	9
	Viney and Kirby Crofts ..	5	10		12	4½
	the Readings	3			6	9
Mr. Noakes	Magham Farm	43		4	16	9
Lord Pelham	Tilehurst Wood.....	24		2	14	0
Mrs. Pattenden	Harmers Hay	15		1	13	9
	Manders	4	10		10	1½
	Little Dens.....	5			11	3
	Wenmores	14		1	11	6
Mr. John Putland	His House	1	10		3	4½
	Squabs Brook	1	10		3	4½
Mr. Purseglove	Marshland	2	10		5	7½
Mr. Peter Pelling	Green Field Marsh	12	0	1	7	0
Mr. John Reed.....	House and Croft	1			2	3
The Widow Reed.....	House and Land	2			4	6
Mr. Sam. Rickman	Amfields.....	12		1	7	0
	Part Hellingly Park....	3			6	9
	Mancers	20		2	5	0
	Lubber Hall	20		2	5	0
	late Tomkins	2			4	6
	New House	1	10		3	4½
Mas ^r Rich ^d Rousts	House	2	0	0		
Mr. Smith	Marsh Land	2	10		5	7½
Mr. Shelley	House, &c.	5			11	3
	Ruff Lands	18		2	0	6
	late Browns Farm.....	10		1	2	6
	little Bitts	3			6	9
	Pages House, &c.	1	10		3	4½
Mrs. Stephens	Her House.....	2			4	6
Mr. Jno. Sinnock	His House	6			13	6
	Duttons House, &c. [John					
	Brown]	3			6	9
Mr. Swain	Scorewells	10		1	2	6
	Polegate	7	10		16	10½
Mr. Thomas Tourle	Vigors	15		1	13	9
	Howards Upland	10		1	2	6
Mr. Tayler, sen ^r	the Pooles	3			6	9
Mr. Edw. Tanner.....	Hawks Land	1	5		2	9¾
Mr. Thorpe	His House	3			6	9
Mas ^r Tester	His House	1	10		3	4½
Mas ^r Terry	His House	1	10		3	4½
Mr. Tho ^s Tutt	His House	3			6	9
	Bushkey	7	10		16	10½
	Deadlands	3			6	9
	Tomsetts.....	9		1	0	3
	Brownings.....	4			9	0

		Rent.	£	s.	d.
	Newtons	16	1	16	0
	the Picks	4		9	0
Mr. Henry Walker	Stokers	7 10	16	10	$10\frac{1}{2}$
Mr. Henry Weller	Brownings	13 10	1	10	$4\frac{1}{2}$
Widow Weller	Her Land	10 10	1	3	$7\frac{1}{2}$
Mr. W ^m Weller	His Farm	18	2	0	6
	Wildcrofts	10	1	2	6
	Vines Marshes	6		13	6
Thomas Willard, Esq....	His Wood	3		6	9
Mr. Henry Woods	His House	1 10	3		$4\frac{1}{2}$
Mr. John Woods	His House	1 10	3		$4\frac{1}{2}$
Mr. Rich ^d Wood	His House	1 10	3		$4\frac{1}{2}$
	Butterwedges	4 10	10		$1\frac{1}{2}$
Widow Wood	Burgesses	4 10	10		$1\frac{1}{2}$
	Stonesfields	1 10	3		$4\frac{1}{2}$
Mr. Wenham	the Mines	9	1	0	3
Mr. John Walker.....	Gurrs Field	2		4	6
Total of y ^e 2 first Quarters Foreign Book, 1780..		1539 10	173 3		$10\frac{1}{2}$

Hailsham Liberty Poor Book

Mr. Allfrey	part of Ambrose	12	1	7	0
Mr. W ^m Body	Oatham Farm	76 10	8	12	$1\frac{1}{2}$
Mr. Button	16 Acres Marsh Land ..	14	1	11	6
Mr. Bodle	His Marshes	12	1	7	0
Mr. Bennett	Bodinghams	22	2	9	6
Mr. Bristow sen ^r	Tutts Land	70	7	17	6
	P ^t of Westeroft.....	1 10	3		$4\frac{1}{2}$
	the Frys.....	3 15	8		$5\frac{1}{4}$
	Little Barnetts	3 10	7		$10\frac{1}{2}$
Mr. Bristow jun ^r	Bodles and Plodys	6		13	6
	Rousts Marsh	1		2	3
J. Calvery Esq ^r	Dartys	15	1	13	9
Mr. W ^m Colbrands	9 acres of Marsh [Mr. Hurdis £7]	6		13	6
Mr. Colgate	14 acres of Land	10	1	2	6
Mr. Crowhurst	Searland	30	3	7	6
	King's Wishes	9	1	0	3
	Colemans House &c	2		4	6
Mr. Henry Crowhurst ..	Looes Marsh	45	5	1	3
Mr. Carey jun ^r	Spy Marshes	15	1	13	9
Mr. Jasper Dan	Chilley Marsh	7 10	16		$10\frac{1}{2}$
Mr. Fuller	Brays Wish	13	1	9	3
Mr. Fielder	Holmes Marshes	44	4	19	0
	Moselays	8		18	0
— Fuller Esq.....	Collinghams	10	1	2	6
Mr. Freeman	Walland Marsh	3		6	9
Mr. Gower.....	Bear and Franks Marsh	22	2	9	6

		Rent.	£	s.	d.
		£ s.			
Mr. David Guy	Footers	20	2	5	0
Mr. Goringe	Chafinches	3		6	9
Mr. Rich ^d Gouldsmith ..	Plumers Upland	26	2	18	6
The Rev ^d Mr. Hooper ..	East Mershes	39	4	7	9
Mr. W ^m Hicks	Little Milland	11	1	4	9
Mr. Walter Hicks	40 acres Marsh Land ..	35	3	18	9
	Lands &c	6		13	6
Mr. Robert Holmwood .	part of Blackwells	3		6	9
Mr. Rich ^d Holmwood ..	His Land	24	2	14	0
Mr. Hilder	part of Downash	70	7	17	6
Mr. Hurdis	the Profits	8		18	0
	Carpenters	10	1	2	6
Mr. Hall Burgehill	Thatchers Marsh	53	5	19	3
Mr. Hastings	Chandlers	40	4	10	0
Mr. John Inskip	P ^t of Blackwells	2 10		5	7½
Mr. Rich ^d King	New Bridge Marsh	16	1	16	0
Mr. Lamb	Fullers Land	18	2	0	6
Mr. Lullham	Lugear	15	1	13	9
Mr. Langham	Barnetts and Plodys ..	24	2	14	0
	Homestall Marshes	26	2	18	6
Mr. Lingham	Fullers Land	50	5	12	6
Mr. Sam. Matthews	House	1		2	3
Mr. Jno. Matthews	Grasstocks	15	1	13	9
Mr. W ^m Newman	Parsons Marsh	4		9	0
	Guners	20	2	5	0
Mr. Stephen Parks	Shadwells	11	1	4	9
Mr. Jno. Pattenden	Stores and Capstocks ..	43	4	16	9
	Long Marsh	3		6	9
Mr. Rich ^d Pattenden ..	the Farthings	6		13	6
Mr. John Pope	Hammonds	3		6	9
	Thawyers and Kensleys .	8		18	0
Mr. Peters	Cheese House Marsh ..	50	5	12	6
Mr. Tho ^s Roads	Poundfields	12	1	7	0
Mr. W ^m Sampson	P ^t of the Salts	5		11	3
	Part of Westlewens	20	2	5	0
Mr. Shelley	Pelship	10	1	2	6
	Tunbells	1		2	3
Mr. Strutfield	32 Acres of Land	23	2	11	9
Mr. Shoesmith	Cockshots	7		15	9
Mr. Tho ^s Tutt	Joys Marsh	8		18	0
	Trefts	7		15	9
Mr. Tho ^s Tourle	Dabs Marsh	16 10	1	17	1½
	14 Acres of Marsh	10	1	2	6
	Howards Upland	8		18	0
Mr. John Tourle	His Marsh	38	4	5	6
Mr. Walter Woodhams .	Great Milland	23	2	11	9
Mr. White	Land at downash	36	4	1	0
Widow Wood	Stonestreets	4		9	0
Mr. Richard Wood	Dabs Marsh	3		6	9
Mr. W ^m Weller	Beasom	2		4	6

		Rent.					
		£	s.		£	s.	d.
Mr. Hen. Weller	Brownings	2	5		5	0	$\frac{3}{4}$
Mr. Jno. Walker	House, &c.	1			2	3	
Total Two First Quarters Liberty Poor Book, 1780 ..		1377			154	18	3
Foreign Book ..		1539	10		173	3	$10\frac{1}{2}$
Total ..		£2916	10		£328	2	$1\frac{1}{2}$
Expenses of 2 first Quarters as above ..					215	10	$1\frac{1}{2}$
In hand		£112 12 0					

The year 1780 has been merely arbitrarily chosen as an example; the annual assessments extend thirty years on either side of this date. There is also amongst the original deeds in the Sussex Archæological Society's collection at Lewes a similar assessment made in 1717 for Hailsham Foreign only. The field names in this are very much the same as in the example given above, but of course many of the owners' names are different; the most interesting items are: "Mr Cole present Officer of Ale, Mr Poleard present Officer of Leather," each of whom is entered at £48 per annum. In this connection I may mention that the registers record the burial of two "officers of Excise," Joseph Horne in 1705 and Ralph Box in 1708. These officers were no doubt kept pretty busy, as owing to the proximity of Pevensey Bay—a great smuggling centre—Hailsham played a considerable, though unobtrusive, part in this illicit traffic, and we still have among us men who have helped to run cargoes and who have come in rough contact with the "Customers" and, in at least one case, with their cutlasses.

CHAPTER XI.

AKEHURST.—This family, of which members may be found in many parishes of East Sussex, takes its name from an estate in Hellingly. The first notice of the name in connection with Hailsham is in 1528, when Richard and Robert Akeherst are mentioned as holding land in Morbrook Quarter; Nicholas Akeherst, the son of this Robert, held the land in 1563 and is probably the same as Nicholas Acres, who by his will, written and witnessed by Mr. Reginald Bourcye, in 1582, left “to the reparacions of the church 20^a.” One Thomas Akerst, cooper, made his will in 1552, leaving “to the poore sowles box 12^a” and mentioning “the howsse wherin I dwell with the forge in Haylsham strett.” John Akehurst, senior, occurs as juror on an ²⁸⁵inquisition in 1559; and Edward Akeherst, who held land in Hailsham in 1563, was juror at the ²⁸⁶Court of Ludley in 1576. Thomas Akeherste, yeoman, who died in 1599, was father of the Thomas Akehurst, jurat, who bequeathed 3s. 4d. “unto the reparacyons of the churche of Haylsham” in 1612, in which year he was churchwarden, as were Edward Akehurst in 1620 and Thomas Ackhurste in 1663. John Akehurst of Downash is mentioned in the Parliamentary survey of 1650, as is also John Akeherst of Crawle, gent., whose daughter Anne married Richard Lewes and died about 1680. In the poll book of 1705 William Akehurst appears; and the name is still to be found in the parish.

ATTE WODE OR A' WOOD.—The first of the family that I have met with is Remigius de Bosco, witness to Sir Robert Marmion's charter, c. 1230. ²⁸⁷In 1287 the Hundred of Thylle present “12^a deodand of a log of wood by which William atte Wood was struck and killed in the park of Sperton.” Thomas atte Wode made a grant of land in Haylesham to Michelham Priory in

²⁸⁵ Chancery Inq., Vol. 126, No. 134.

²⁸⁶ Duchy of Lanc. Court Rolls, 126, No. 1,884.

²⁸⁷ Assize Roll, 924.

1332, and another ²³⁸Thomas was portreeve of Pevensey in 1357. John atte Wode was juror on an inquisition in 1371 and witness to a ²³⁹deed in 1397, in which year Walter ate Wode also witnessed a deed. This Walter was mentioned in the subsidy of 1375 and in 1395 was associated with Simon Perchyng in a ²⁴⁰grant to Agnes and Matilda, daughters of Nicholas Wynan, of lands in Hailsham and Horseye. Thomas atte Wode occurs in various ²⁴¹deeds from 1418 to 1430 and Thomas and William are ²⁴²jurors in 1446, and the same Thomas occurs with Mathew and Alice atte Wode as resident in Hailsham in 1450. John a Wode, who occurs in a ²⁴³subsidy of 1524, and Joan his wife obtained a lease of lands in Otham in 1508; Richard a Wodd is mentioned in the Muster Roll of 1539; and the will of Edward A' Wood, made in 1592, is preserved at Lewes. After this date the name seems to have become simply Wood.

AVEREY.—This name, which has a large number of variants, appears to be derived from the Christian name Alfred, one Avery Aghteman appearing, with William Avery and others, as a baron of Pevensey about 1315. The lands called Avereys are in the survey of 1563 termed Alveries and the names Alvery, Alvered, Elvered and Alfrey will be found in the Consents of Marriage; these are evidently variations of the same, and another appears in Alfrich, in the subsidy of 1373, which again is the same as the Alfryrch of the Nonae return, in which also John Averay is found. The earliest case in which I have found the name is on the Assize Roll for 1278: ²⁴⁴“Alan le Clerck father of Edith le Clerck was seised of land in Hailsham, of which Nicholas le Masun has 4 acres, Ralph atte Eston and John Horewe 6 acres and Richard Avereys 3½ acres.” In 1587 Richard Avereys was juror and tithing man for Hailsham at Ludley Court and in 1639 the will of John Averie, brickmaker, was written and witnessed by Richard Coulman, who per-

²³⁸ Orig. Ministers' Accts., 1,028, 3.

²³⁹ “S.A.C.,” Vol. XXII.

²⁴⁰ Ancient Deeds, C. 1,342.

²⁴¹ Thorpe's Battle Abbey Charters.

²⁴² Dy. of Lanc. Inq., Vol. I., 48.

²⁴³ Lay Subsidy, 1524.

²⁴⁴ Assize Roll, 916.

formed the same services for several other contemporary parishioners.

BODLE or BOTHEL.—There are more references to this family—who take their name from the hamlet of Bodle Street, near Herstmonceux—in connection with Hailsham than to any other and, with the exception of the Willards, they cover a greater length of time, extending from the commencement of the fourteenth century down to the present time. Probably the first reference is an undated note of the manumission of ²⁴⁵ “Alan Bothel and Michael Bothel of Childherst, serfs,” by the Abbot of Bayham. But the first member of the family whose date is known is Justin de Bothel, or de Bodil, ²⁴⁶ “of the port of Pevensey who (with others) is setting out with the king”—on an expedition to France in 1313. William and John Bothel occur on the Subsidy Roll of 1384, and Robert Bothel is witness to deeds in ²⁴⁷ 1397 and ²⁴⁸ 1399. After this there is a considerable interval before the next appearance of the name, which is in 1524, when Arnould Bodyll appears in a subsidy of the Hundred of Dill. Thomas Bodle is mentioned in the Muster Roll, 1539, and Edward Bodell and John Bodell, mason, both occur as owning land in Hailsham in ²⁴⁹ 1585. There are a number of wills at Lewes relating to this family: 1569, John Bodle, mention of “a shoppe joyning to the churchrayle which I lately bought of Thomas Bret;” 1570, Thomas Boodell, yeoman, “to be buried in the church of Haylsham”—mention of “my house where Arnold Harbart now dwelleth—a crofte called Potters which I hold of John Foote gentillman—y^e Sextens crofte that I holde of my L Bouckherst—my Barnes and house and crofte that I call the Persons barne”—and bequest of “one quarne to grynd malt.” Nicholas Bodle was Headborough for Hailsham at Ludley Court in 1587 and churchwarden in 1608. In 1609 Nicholas, son of Arnold Bodle, butcher (who had married Joan Gates in 1589), apprenticed himself to Philip Renne of Pevensey, blacksmith; this

²⁴⁵ Add. MSS., 6,037.

²⁴⁷ “S.A.C.,” Vol. XXII.

²⁴⁶ Close Rolls, 6^o Edw. II. [*Cal.*].

²⁴⁸ Ancient Deeds, C. 1,342.

²⁴⁹ Add. MSS., 33,058.

is probably the Nicholas who occurs—with five other members of the family—in the survey of Ersham Manor in 1625, and is also identical with Nicholas Bodell of Townash (*i.e.*, Downash), whose son Richard was buried in 1643. To this period belong three more wills: 1638, John Bodle, butcher, mentions “lands adjoyning Hailsham Common commonly known as y^e Deadlands—land called Wovers in occupation of William Lullam—land called Barnett containing 34 acres;” 1638, Thomas Bodle, butcher (“a shop called the Slaughter house, formerly Thomas Bodle’s,” is mentioned in the Michelham Court book of 1707), leaves “to the poore 40^s—to the reparacons of Hailsham church 40^s;” 1639, John Bodle, butcher, leaves “to the repaying of the church 10^s—to Thomas Bodle my brother 10 acres of Marshland called Whitemershe and 5 acres of upland lying over against the house of Thomas Cockshutt and an other parcell of land called Pigmeares with house and croft, paying therefore threescore pounds to Henry Kenchly—to Abraham Bodle my brother, Broome land.” Abraham Bodle, “chantler,” was churchwarden in 1616 and 1639. Many other references will be found in the index.

COCKSHOT.—This curious name is probably derived from “Cockshoot,” a local term for a sluice. Richard Cokesych of the Nonae inquisition may have been an ancestor of the family; Thomas Cockshote, we have seen, was executor to Thomas Altofte in 1506, and Alan Cockshatt, or Cockshete, was a landowner in 1528 and 1540. John Cockshott, husbandman, by his will of 1603, left “to thirtie of the poorest of the parrishe of Hailsham ten shillings, foure pence a peece—towards the reparacons of the church 5^s” and mentions “a crofte called Muskettes—marsh lande called Bullocke.”

COBBE.—This family was chiefly connected with the adjoining parish of Arlington, but in one or two cases come into touch with Hailsham. ²⁵⁰In 1397 John Cobbe granted land in Erlyngton to John Melker of Morbroke, and in 1486 William Cobbe held certain land in Arlington

by grant of Giles Cobbe of Hailsham. Two wills of Hailsham members of the family are at Lewes; that of John Cobbe, 1545, is written in Latin: "I will that my executors distribute 20^s to the poor in this manner, on the day of my burial 6^s 8^d, on my month's day 6^s 8^d, and on the anniversary 6^s 8^d, and I will that 3 masses be celebrated on each of these occasions;" further, he leaves to his son John a black cow and a pair of sheets and a "blankette." The other will is that of Nicholas Cobbe, yeoman, 1609, who appoints "my brother-in-lawe John Wood Parson of Chaunton (Chalvington) to be overseer, and I doo give unto him a peece of golde of 20^s for his paynes."

COLBRAND.—As early as 1260 Thomas Colebrand was ²⁵¹juror for Dill hundred, but the name is chiefly associated with Wartling and Herstmonceux till the eighteenth century, when it occurs fairly frequently in Hailsham. A variation of the name which is still found in the parish is shown in the apprenticeship (1601) of Rachel daughter of Matthew Colbran to Thomas Gattes, carpenter. Three members of the family occur in the following will of 1702: "I widdow Dimmock do give unto my son Thomas Colebrand one bedd Tick and one boulder tick. I give unto my son John Colebrand one peece of Gold one Silver spoon and one Gold Ring. And unto my son William Colebrand I give all the rest of my Goods and money except one Dammas Coate and one leas Hanketcher and one Capp and ²⁵²Quaife and this I give to Hanna Simmons and this is my will."

CROPPE.—Alwin le Crop occurs in the Bayham Chartulary as holding land of Ralph de Dene, about 1200 (Alan Cropp was witness to Sir Robert Marmion's charter, c. 1230); and about the same date Galfrid de St. Leger granted to Ottenham Abbey his serf Eadward Creppe, probably one of the same family. A century later, 1305, John Crop appears as a benefactor of

²⁵¹ Assize Roll, 912.

²⁵² Quaife = Coif, a kind of cap; similarly in 1622 Mary Tindall, widow, leaves "to Elizabeth Frenche my best neckerchief, one quoife, one Crosclouth and a smocke."

Bayham Abbey, and by an undated deed of the same period Walter Crop received a corrody from that abbey on condition that he should remain in their service and that his goods should pass to the abbey on his death. Walter and William Croppe appear as barons of Pevensay in 1311 and 1316, and another William, with Robert and John Crop, is mentioned in the Nonae return of 1341, while we have already had a notice of William and Robert Crop in the Assize Roll of 1352. The connection of this family with Hailsham appears to cease with the fourteenth century, the last reference being a grant, already mentioned, in 1369 of land at Blakewelle by Robert Crop to Nicholas Wynam, but curiously enough the name is found in the sixteenth century at Aylsham in Norfolk.

DREWE. — This name originates from the Saxon Christian name Dru, more often met with in the Latinized form of Drogo. One Drui was tenant of land in Ottenham about 1200, and it is in connection with Otham that the only two references previous to the sixteenth century occur; John Drew obtaining a lease of the Manor of Otham in 1405 and Thomas Drewe of Otham, yeoman, being one of those involved in Cade's rebellion in 1459. John Drew held land in Morbroke Quarter in 1528 and Thomas Drewe by his will, dated 1544, left "Swynes"—held of Otham Manor—to his son Thomas.²⁵³ In 1629 Robert Drew of the Rape of Pevensay paid £10 as composition for knighthood; and in 1657 consent of marriage between Elizabeth Drewe, widow, and Thomas Atwell, husbandman, was published, but forbidden after the second time by the same Elizabeth. The name is found in the eighteenth century and, I believe, still.

ESTERFIELD is a name that occurs in the Hailsham registers very frequently during the sixteenth century. In a²⁵⁴ subsidy of the Hundred of Dill levied in 1524 John Esterfelde is assessed at £7 "in goods," a sum only passed by some half a dozen out of the seventy names given; he was witness to Robert Wyllard's will in 1528,

²⁵³ "S.A.C.," Vol. XVI.

²⁵⁴ Lay Subsidy, 1524.

and in 1546 John Esterfyld paid 16^d "for lands" towards a ²⁵⁵monthly contribution, and, finally, John Esterfyld, yeoman, by his will of 1557 desired "to be buried in the church of Haylsham before the chaunselles dor" and left "to the church aforesaid for breking the ground 6^s 8^d." Thomas Esterfylde in his will, 1572, gave "towards the reparōns of the churche of Haylsham 3^s 4^d . . . Also I will 20^s to be distributed among the poore people at my buryall, 10^s of it in monye and 10^s in breade and drincke." Amongst his other legacies are "a quysshon of feathers, 2 porrengers of pewter, and a ²⁵⁶christening sheate." According to a ²⁵⁷military subsidy of the Rape of Pevensey, made in 1583, five Hailsham men had to provide one light horse apiece, but Thomas Esterfylde is put down for two.

FENNELL OR A'FENNELL.—This name also belongs chiefly to the sixteenth century. John Avenell was juror on an ²⁵⁸inquisition at Hailsham in 1559 and is probably the same as ²⁵⁹John Affenell, who obtained land in Hailsham from Thomas Devenish in 1547. Simon Affenell in 1563 held Averies, Barnets and Sereland, and in the Pevensey book of rentals for 1537 Simon Fennell is entered as holding Avereys, till then accredited to the New Priory. This Simon was probably father to John Fennell of Hailsham, baillie of Pevensey, who owned, as appears by his will of 1604, "land called Serlande and Cocke . . . Redgat and Dowlland alias Swynes—and Auferyes;" he also owned the "mannor house called Filching," in Jevington parish, and desired "to be buried in the church of Jevington." The will of John Fennell, merchant, 1638, is also preserved at Lewes; and in the Parliamentary survey of 1650 James Fennell of Willingdon occurs as lessee of some of the lands in Hailsham belonging to the Manor of Pevensey.

²⁵⁵ Lay Subsidy, $\frac{1}{2}\frac{2}{2}\frac{0}{0}$.

²⁵⁶ Similarly in the will of Bridget Peirse: "as for the Christening thinges the sheate and mantle and facecloathe it is my will that it shall bee betwixt my two daughters and my sonne James for their use."

²⁵⁷ Harleian MSS., 703.

²⁵⁸ Chancery Inq., Vol. 126.

²⁵⁹ Feet of Fines, 1^o Edw. VI., Trin. 88 [Cal.].

FOSTER.—The Fosters were one of the leading families of yeomanry during the sixteenth century, the first member of whom we have notice being John Foster, of the Hundred of Dill, assessed in 1524 at £6 “in goods;” in the muster roll of 1539 he appears as having more armour than any others in the list, and was evidently one of the larger landowners in the parish, as in a ²⁶⁰subsidy of 1546 his is one of the five names given under Hailsham, he paying “for lands” 2s. 4d.; the other names are: “The Vicar of Hailsham for his vicaredge there 3^s 4^d, John Deane, 8^d, John Esterfyld 16^d, Richard Tutte 8^d.” John Foster died in 1552 and Agnes his widow made her will in 1554, leaving “to my servant Elizabeth 3^s 4^d and a Whyttell and a shete and my best peticote. Item I give to Agnes the wyff of Thomas Sander my Russett petycote.” The will of Edmund Foster, 1566, also exists at Lewes; he was one of the “able bill-men” in 1539. We have seen that Thomas Foster held a portion of the lands of the rectory in 1576, and ²⁶¹Burrell records that an inquisition was made at Arundel in 1604, by which it appeared that “Thomas Foster of Hailsham, yeoman, died 2 March 44^o Elizabeth seised of a capital messuage &c in Haylesham called Marshfoote and divers lands holden of the king in chief by knight service; he left daughter and heir Martha then aged 21, who died 21 June 44^o Elizabeth, having married Ashburnham Peake of Haylisham, gent.” In the description of the rectory lands in 1576 Nicholas Foster’s name occurs constantly as owner of the neighbouring marsh land and in the same year he was juror at Ludley, and in a ²³²subsidy also of the same date he is assessed at £14 “in goods”—more than three times as much as any other Hailsham man paid. In 1585 was made a ²⁶³“Taxation of Hundred of Dill for subsidie. Assessed and taxed by John Courthopp, gent. Nicholas Foster, Thomas Mylles, Arnowle Herbert, John Marckwycke, Richard Chilley and Elias Tompkyne;” in which, under Haylsham half-hundred, “The Assessors—Nicholas

²⁶⁰ Lay Subsidy, $\frac{1}{2}$ ss.

²⁶¹ Add. MSS., 5,681.

²⁶² Lay Subsidy, $\frac{1}{2}$ ss.

²⁶³ Add. MSS., 33,058.

Foster in lands £15, Arnowle Herbert in goods £5, William Fayreway in goods £4." In the ²⁶⁴military subsidy for Rape of Pevensey in 1583 Nicholas Foster of Hailsham has to supply one Lighthouse; and the register for 1589 records that Nicholas Foster was buried in the church. His daughter Mary—he had married Annis Luck in 1561—married William Stonestreet in 1605. After the reign of Elizabeth the family do not seem to have played any important part in the parish; Robert Foster, cutler, made his will in 1611, and Stephen Foster was parish clerk in 1614; Suzanna daughter of Stephen Foster married Thomas Baker, "haberdasher of hatts," as appears from his will of 1613, in which his daughter Bethia is also mentioned.

FRY.—²⁶⁵In 1278 the Hundred of Thille present that "Nicholas le Frye of Halesham used to do service at the hundred court on the two lawedayes but has withdrawn his service for the last five years, for which he is fined 10^s of gold and put in mercy." John Frye occurs in the Nonae returns and John and Nicholas Frye in the subsidy of 1373, and the name is found fairly frequently at later dates. As the land called "the Fry" in the Parliamentary Survey is called "the Fryt" in 1563 it is possible that ²⁶⁶Thomas de Frith (1278), ²⁶⁷Richard atte Frith (1331), and ²⁶⁸Richard atte Fryht (1377) may have been members of this family. ~

GILES.—In 1657 Samuel Giles issued a farthing token (now extremely rare):

Obv. SAMVELL · GILLES — S. E. G.

Rev. OF · HELSHAM · MERCER — 1657.

This would appear to have been issued more or less to celebrate his marriage, as in April, 1657, he married Elizabeth Winter of Hastings, whose initial (E.) is placed on the coin. Samuel Giles and Samuel Gyles, jun., were witnesses to an indenture of apprenticeship in 1680, and

²⁶⁴ Harleian MSS., 703.

²⁶⁶ Assize Roll, 921.

²⁶⁵ Assize Roll, 916.

²⁶⁷ Inq. p.m., 5^o Edw. III., p. 2, 136.

²⁶⁸ Inq. p.m., 51^o Edw. III., p. 2, 49.

one of the two was churchwarden in 1697 and voted in the election of 1705.

HARTNUP.—William Hartnup issued, about 1660, the only other Hailsham token:

Obv. WILLIAM · HARTNUP · OF · — The Grocers' Arms.

Rev. HAILSHAM · IN · SUSSEX · — W. E. H.

This token is also very rare. The issuer was buried in September, 1675.

HALSHAM.—This armigerous family is now usually considered to be a branch of the Lincolnshire family of that name, but was derived by both Cartwright and Lower from Hailsham, the latter stating in his "*Patronymica Britannica*" that the family flourished at Hailsham in the fourteenth century. I am rather afraid that he meant they ought to have flourished there then; at any rate, I have not met with any traces of them except that ²⁶⁹Burrell states that "the manor of Braborne in Kent . . . descended to John Halsham of Halsham in Sussex" in 1375. This, I suppose, is the John Haylsham who was ²⁷⁰knight of the shire in 1373. This latter spelling certainly favours the local derivation and still more is this the case with Robert de Haylsham, knight of the shire between 1353 and 1363.

HARMER.—This family, who are still represented in the parish, probably took that name from the Harmere mentioned in the following case from the ²⁷¹Assize Roll of 1260:

Mabel wife of Henry Knocke (of Knock-Hatch) having been abducted by Galfrid Kercharme of Avenden in Kent, Henry de Knocke her husband, Thomas de la Knocke his brother, Thomas le Somenir of Lewes, Alexander ate Doune of Erlington, Richard Trachard and Simon de Crute of Haylesham came and, with the consent of Mabel, slew Galfrid, placed his body on his own horse and carried the body from la Knocke to Harmere, and fled. No Englishry was presented; so the hundred is in mercy.

Amongst the same presentments of the Hundred of Dill occurs the name of Ralph de Hermeresey, and the corrupted form "Harmers hay" occurs in the 1717

²⁶⁹ Add. MSS., 5,681.

²⁷⁰ "Horsfield's History of Sussex."

²⁷¹ Assize Roll, 912.

assessment of the foreign part of Hailsham and may be identical with Harmannyshay, apparently near Moorbrook, held by Michelham Priory at the dissolution. Anthony Harmer by his will of 1553 left "to Elizabeth my daughter my little possenett . . . I bequeth to my son Thomas all my tooles but I wyll that he shall leave an axe with my wyff." Thomas Harmer, the elder, was assessed in 1576 at 20^s "in lands," and was juror at Ludley the same year. Agnes Slater, widow, bequeathed in 1556 "to Agnes Harmer widow my best ²⁷²sede petycote, a new nekercher, a double vayle, a new kercher and my best cappe."

HOLLAMBY.—John Hollamby, a native of Frant, but resident almost all his life in Hailsham, where he worked in the mill, issued through the Hailsham Press in 1827 a small volume of verse, entitled "The Unlettered Muse," of which a second edition was issued in 1829. It is not my province to pronounce on poetry, but personally I consider that, though of course this poor working-man was no great genius, still he was not far inferior to another better known Sussex poet—Hayley; in fact, I will go further and say that in one or two cases he displays distinct poetic feeling. Geering devotes a chapter to him and his works, and one proof of Hollamby's good sense is that he never printed the punning poem quoted by Geering from one of his manuscripts.

KENCHLEY.—Several members of this family were yeomen and considerable landowners during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, the first mentioned being Richard Kenchsley of the Hundred of Dill in 1524. Contemporary with him was William Kentisley, who was lessee of the manor of Otham in 1526 and lord of that manor in 1535. Besides this William, Thomas, John and Edmund Kentysley occur as holding land in Otham Quarter in 1528; of these, John was probably the son and heir of William, who succeeded to the manor of Otham on his father's death in 1558. Possibly Elenor Kensley, who made her will in 1542, was wife to the said

²⁷² Sede = silk.

William, as she had a son John: "I bequeth to the hye auter for my obits and forgetyng tythes 6^d. It' I wyll have at my buryal 3 masses and at my monthes mynde 3 masses and at my yeremind 3 masses. . . . To John Kensley my son my gretyst brass pott, to Nicholas my son the next brass pott, and to Jone my dowghter my great kettell, and the next kettell to Agnes my dowghter Witnessed by, Roger Wallway prest, and John Robert clerke." John Kentsley of Otham, yeoman, by his will of 1563 desired "to be buried in y^e parryshe church of Hayllsame under my seate ther;" and left to his brother Richard "the tenement called Ambrosse with 40 acres of land in Haylesham and Jevington," and to his wife the "mannor of Ottham; and Poundfold containing 20 acres; land called Daddyingtons containing 21 acres partly in Foyngton; and pycke byre 4 acres." The Richard here mentioned is no doubt the Richard Kennesley who held land in the Liberty portion of the parish in 1563; he had married in 1559 Elizabeth Jurye, probably a daughter of Richard Jurye, yeoman, who in 1557 bequeathed "to the poor of Haylsham 5 marcs, to the poor of Chyttyngleygh 5 marcs, to the poor of Hodlye 5 nobles . . . to the hyghway making in parish of Hodlye betwene the church and John Jurye's howsse 5 nobles;" we have seen that at Ludley Court in 1576 Richard Kenslye was fined for not having drained the road near Swines Hill. His son was probably John Kenchley of Amberons, buried in 1604, who desired in his will of the same year "to bee buried within the church of Hailsham;" he had been churchwarden in 1602. Abraham Kensley, brother of the above Richard, appears to have obtained the manor of Otham previous to 1567—in which year he, with William Kensley, sold certain demesnes lands thereof—probably by the bequest of John Kenchley's widow; and in 1601 Abraham Kenchley left the manor to his nephew, James Snow.

The registers record the burial of John son of Richard Kenchley, jurate, in 1614; and in 1620 Richard Kencheley, yeoman, left directions for his body to be buried in Hailsham, where so many of his predecessors

lay. Another Richard appears as witness to the will of Miles Hodson of 1625 and as a freeholder of Ersham manor in 1635 and 1640. Abraham Kenchley of Otham appears in the Parliamentary Survey; and in 1685 Henry Kenchly was one of the overseers of the poor.

MARSHALL.—Alphege de Mireschal was tenant of Otham about 1200; at the end of the same century in the ordination of Hailsham Vicarage, 1296, “the land of Walter de Mereshale” occurs, which may be the “Mereshale” of Robert de Dene’s foundation charter, and is possibly also identical with the “2 acres called Mersalls” of the Parliamentary Survey. In the subsidy of 1385 Robert and John Mersale are mentioned, and John Mersale is also found as a baron of the Cinque Ports in Henry VII.’s time; in the registers of 1559 the name occurs as Mersall. Whether this is really an early form of the name Marshall I have no actual proof, but it is at least possible. On the other hand the more usual derivation (titular and not territorial) also appears in several cases, as Robert Marescall, witness to a thirteenth century Otham deed; in ²⁷³1306 the Hundred of Thille present Gilbert, son of Gilbert Erche, for assaulting John le Marchal; ²⁷⁴in 1326 John Mareschall is defendant in a Hailsham suit; and Thomas Marchell is found in the 1524 subsidy. In connection with this second derivation it is worth noting that in 1352 the Marshalsea (*Marescalcia*) of the bailiff of Pevensey is spoken of.

ONSTYE OR UNSTYE.—A grant of land made in 1460 to Thomas Onstye has been already mentioned under Magham Down; ²⁷⁵in 1472 Richard Cach of Cuckfield devised all his lands in that place to Thomas Onstye of Haylesham and others. John Onsty, who held land in Moorbrook in 1528, made his will in 1542, desiring to be buried “in the churchyarde of Haylsham” and leaving “to the hie Altar of Haylsham 4^d and to the church warke 3^s 4^d . . . at my buryal 3 masses and mete and drinke to the poore people, and at my jersmynd

²⁷³ Assize Roll, 934.

²⁷⁴ Assize Roll, 938.

²⁷⁵ Ancient Deeds, C. 1,053 [*Cal.*].

3 masses and mete and drynke to the poore people. . . . To John my eldest son two of the best oxen that is a black and a yelle. To Nicholas my son the blacke mare. To John my youngest son a pair of shets. To Jone my dowghter 2 plates 2 pewter dysches and 2 sawsers. . . . I wyll that Sir John Buckeland shall be my overseer." John Unsty, probably the eldest son of the preceding, directs in his will of 1557 that 8 bushels of wheat shall be divided amongst the poor, and leaves "to the mother church of Chichester 4^d." The will of William Onstye the elder, dated 1570, directs "30^s to be distributed amongst the poore people of this paryshe yerely out of my land till my heire come to the age of 21 years. . . . To William Onsty my cosin my cobbard a gret chest and formes and a ²⁷⁶bountynge hutch;" there is also a bequest to "John Hollybone my uncle." The William here mentioned was the recipient of another miscellaneous legacy in 1575, when John Tutt bequeathed "to William Unstye my best cloke sword and dagger bootes and spurres and a horse colte of thre yere olde and a bridle and sadle."

PELHAM.—This family, afterwards destined to play so important a part in the history of the county—and indeed of the kingdom—were originally settled in Hertfordshire and it was not till ²⁷⁷1295 that they became connected with Sussex, Walter de Pelham in that year obtaining a grant from William le Hupere of a messuage with gardens, pasture, &c., in Heylesham, and a messuage at Escetune, and lands extending from Heylesham to Horsye, and lands of the Eagle, and one piece of land with wood and meadow called Stonyland, and one piece of wood called Hedge grove, a parcel of land called Westfield and others called Stoke and Hamme; the Walter, his heirs and assigns, to hold them in chief, paying 15½^d annual rent, which William ²⁷⁸le Mass,

²⁷⁶ *i.e.*, a rabbit hutch.

²⁷⁷ 1295, according to Burrell [Add. MSS., 5,681], or 1300 according to Lower, "Historical Notices of the Pelham Family," quoting pedigree drawn up by Philpott.

²⁷⁸ Possibly, le Mus.

Nicholas Aufrey, Nicholas Wigge, Margery Wareman, Henry de Garlondo and Gilbert de Berewyke and their predecessors used to pay.

READE or A' REDE.—²⁷⁹ John de Rede was bailiff of the Hundred of Dill in 1260 and a ²⁸⁰ Robert atte Rede occurs in 1305, but, with the exception of ²⁸¹ Hugo atte Rede, who was juror on an inquisition in 1360, the name does not occur again till the subsidy of 1524, in which John and Thomas A Rede and John Rede appear; the William a Reede, who held land in Moorbrook in 1528, made his will in 1558 as William A' Reyd. Another William Rede was juror at Ludley in May, 1576, and as William a Reede, headborough of Hailsham, in November of the same year, and as William Reed appears on the subsidy of 1585. John Reade held land at Downash in 1650 and William Reade had a shop in the market place; the latter is probably the William Reede, of Downash, who was buried in 1665. Jeremiah Reed, the churchwarden, whose name appears on the bells cast in 1663, is described as Jeremy Reede, yeoman, in the consent of marriage between him and Jane White, of Northiam, 1658.

READER, a name still found in the parish, may have originated from the same root as the Reades. John Reder, senior and junior, were barons of Cinque Ports in Henry VII.'s time; and Henry Reder, whose will was executed about 1540, held land in Moorbrook in 1528. In 1549 Thomas Reder left "to the poore men's box 4^d," his will being witnessed by George Fayrebank, clerk.

SNOWE.—Peter and Thomas Snowe occur in the 1524 subsidy; the former of these held Grovelands at the time of the "Valor Ecclesiasticus," and the latter is mentioned in the Muster Roll of 1539 and may be the Thomas Snow who made a will in 1554: "To the poore men's chest 6^s 8^d . . . towards mending the ²⁸² calsey betwene my house at Downasshe and the church wher nede require, 20^s . . . to George, my son, Dobsmarshe, Crowches, Jordayns, Myldern, Fakam Land . . . to

²⁷⁹ Assize Roll, 912.

²⁸⁰ Assize Roll, 934.

²⁸¹ Inq. p.m., 33^o Edw. III., p. 1, 38.

²⁸² *i.e.*, causeway.

John Reder land called Crokern . . . to Alexander Parkes, of Fokington, the lease of land called Squabbs." An earlier will is that of Richard Snow (1540), who left his body "to be buried in the church of Haylsham and I bequeth to the churche of Haylsham 6^s 8^d for the brekyng of y^e ground. It' I bequeth to y^e repaire of y^e church 20^d, to y^e hygh Aultar for my obyts and forgotten tythes 8^d. . . . It' to y^e repair of y^e hygheway in Hartfeld strete 40^s . . . to Thomas Buckland curate of Haylsham 6^s 8^d."

STONESTREET.—²⁸³This family bore for arms: *Ar.* on two bars *sa.* 3 bulls' heads caboshed of the field. Stephen Stonestreet was buried at Herstmonceux in 1538 and his grandson, William, resided in Hailsham, where, in 1605, he married Mary, the daughter of Nicholas Foster; his brother Henry lived in Lewes. In the parish chest is an indenture of apprenticeship, dated 1615, of Martha Mantell to William Stonestreet, mercer; in 1626 he made his will, leaving "to the poore of the parishe of Hailsham 20^s to be distributed among them on the Sabbath Day next after my decease . . . to the poore of the parrishe of St. Anne's Lewes 10^s . . . to my son William my biggest silver bolle to my son Henry my biggest silver guilt salt . . . to William Stonestreet my brother Henries son one peece of plate of vallue of 40^s;" there is also mention of "Philipp my son Nicholas' daughter." This Nicholas is returned in the ²⁸⁴Compositions for Knighthood of 1629 as "having neither goods nor lands;" he was the eldest son and married Elizabeth Newman in 1624; his will, dated 1632, mentions his sons, William and Henry, and daughters, Mary and Catherine; also "to my brother Henry I give the house ²⁸⁵John Humfrey nowe dwelleth in called the Crowne in Hailsham with my lands lying at Whitedike in the some parish and my crofts called Viny and Carby Crofts:" in 1715 William Stonestreet, clerk, alienated to Thomas Colbron "the messuage called

²⁸³ Berry's "Sussex Genealogies."

²⁸⁴ "S.A.C.," Vol. XVI.

²⁸⁵ The will of John Humphery, "inholder," is dated 1639.

the Crown Inn with a stable &c., and a parcell of land called Kerbycroft containing an acre and a half:" Nicholas Stonestreat also mentions "John Hammond my godsonne," and makes "my loving bretheren and frends Mr. William Hammond and Mr. William Stonestreet" overseers. Another Nicholas Stonestreet, of Hailsham, appears on a ²⁸⁶subsidy of 1649 as holding £20 in lands, and a William Stonestreet, either the brother of the former Nicholas or his son (who married Katherine Thomason, heiress of the Fetherston's, of Hassingbroke Hall, in Essex, and was of London and Westham) occurs in the Parliamentary Survey.

SWAINE is a name which occurs very frequently in the earlier registers and to a less extent in other documents connected with the parish. Thomas Swane occurs on the Muster Roll of 1539, and John Swane the elder and Thomas Swane were jurors at Ludley in 1576 and assessed in the subsidy of the same year, and John is also mentioned in the subsidy of 1585; Thomas may be the Thomas Swayne, tailor, whose will was made in 1587. In 1601 Humphrie, son of John Nicholson, apprenticed himself to Elias Swane of Hailsham, shoemaker; and at the survey of Ersham manor in 1625 Elias Swane was the largest tenant; four years later he made his will, which mentions a good deal of landed property, as: "land called Betts and Carpenters, Whilers Hill and the Hale, bought of Abraham Twit of Crambroke—marsh land called Pellsters—lease of lands and houses of Sir John Gage—a lease of the Personage of Hailsham for ten years from May 2nd 1629 made before Edward Combes by David Cooper of Glynde;" there is also a legacy to his god-daughter Elizabeth, daughter of the late Desire Smith, clerk. The estate of Polegate was during the eighteenth century held by this family.

TUTT.—A name still well known in the parish. In the subsidy of Dill hundred in 1523 John Tutte is the third largest contributor, being assessed at £12 in goods; Richard Tutte (able bill-man in 1539) occurs in the same

list and again in another ²⁸⁷subsidy of 1546. John Tutt's bequest in 1575 to William Onsty has been mentioned; he also left "to Alice my wife a baye bald ambling mare." Another John Tutt is mentioned in the subsidies of 1576 and 1585, and was one of the four tithing men for Hailsham in the former year. A branch of the family rose to the rank of gentry at the beginning of the eighteenth century, John Tutt, gent., occurring on the poll books of 1705 and 1734.

WILLARD.—This family is on the whole the most important of any as regards Hailsham, having been connected with the parish for at least six centuries, playing a leading part most of that time. Some time in the eighteenth century they assumed, apparently without any title, the arms at present borne by them: *Ar.* a chevron between 3 fish-weels *sable*. A book entitled the "Willard Memoir," by John Willard, of Boston, published in 1858, contains a great deal of information about the family, including a pedigree by M. A. Lower of the Eastbourne branch, from 1500 downwards; the author, however, displays a truly American greed for ancestors and endeavours to prove Norman descent, though in order to do so he has to "spell it with a We;" the name is, however, almost certainly of native origin.

²⁸⁸A John Wylard and Agnes Shereve, his wife, had land in Winchelsea and Whatlington in 1293, but the first mention of the family in Hailsham is in ²⁸⁹1304, when Laurence Willard was acquitted on a charge of robbing Simon Alehurst. ²⁹⁰Burrell gives a "Petition of the Commonalty of the Lowe of Pevenesse, a member of the Port of Hastings, against the imposition of Tallage" (undated, but evidently about 1315), signed by Richard de Pevenese Bailiff, Piers Willard, John Willard atte Doune, Richard atte Werd, Simon de Hydenye, Elys le Clerc, Randolf Wodelond, Lucas Scot, Robert Kipping, les heirs Cok atte Doune, William Croppe, Nicholas le Long, Simon Littlewatte, William Avery,

²⁸⁷ Lay Subsidy, 1222.

²⁸⁸ Thorpe's Battle Abbey Charters.

²⁸⁹ Assize Roll, 934.

²⁹⁰ Add. MSS., 5,681.

Avery Aghteman and others. This John Willard of la Doune occurs with a number of others as receiving pardon of outlawry in 1316, and is no doubt the John Willard of Horsye, who appears, with Nicholas Willard, as holding land of the ²⁹¹Manor of Pevensey in 1324—Nicholas was juror on an ²⁹²inquisition at Hailsham in 1340. William Wyllard, who is mentioned with John Wyllard in the Nonae returns of 1341, is found again, as we have seen, on the Assize Roll of 1353; and in the list of barons of Pevensey resident in Hailsham in 1373 Roger and ²⁹³Richard Willard occur, as do Thomas and John in the similar list of 1384. The fifteenth century records relating to Hailsham being scanty, our next reference is 1524, when Richard, John, Robert and Katherine Willarde contributed to the ²⁹⁴subsidy of the hundred of Dill, the first-named being assessed at £18, an amount only surpassed by one (Richard Twisden, £20) and £6 more than the next highest. Robert Wyllard, by his will, dated 1528, desired to be buried “in the churchyard of our Lady in Halsam,” and left “to y^e hy auter for thythes and oblacyons forgotten 4^d to y^e mother church of Chichester 6^d. It’ I bequeth that at my beryyng 2 prests and at y^e months mind 3 prests (shall perform mass). It’ I bequeth to y^e curat of Hallsam 4 nobles and he to bestowe yt for y^e sowle of Xyofer Wyllard (the testator’s father) the which I am bound y to.”

Nicholas Willerd, who possessed the second largest amount of armour in 1539, left directions in 1543 for his body to be buried “in the church erth of Haylsham, and I wyll to have at my buriall 6 masses and at my monthes day 6 masses. It’ I will to have at my months day a stere to be kyllyd of y^e valew of 20^s to be dystributed and gyven to poore people of y^e same daye to pray for my sawle with mete and drinke convenient.

²⁹¹ Rentals and Surveys, 664.

²⁹² Inq. p.m., 14^o Edw. III., p. 2, 46.

²⁹³ Richard Willard and Petronilla his wife, of Hailsham, in 1378; Court Rolls, 206-21, Pevensey Lowey.

²⁹⁴ Lay Subsidy, 1423.

It' I leave to the reparing of the church of Helsham 20^s:" Nicholas, his son, is left under the guardianship of Robert Garrett, and the will is witnessed by "Thomas Devenyssh Esquier and Richard Garrett one of the jurates of Pemsey." In 1559 Katherine Coker bequeathed "to George and Fellex Wyllard a fetherbed and 3 candlestycks," and in 1595 John Willard, who was juror at Ludley in 1576, willed "that Joane my sister shall have her dwellinge in the little house joyning unto the common and one little herbe garden closed out by the Box tree adjoyninge unto the little house." Notices of a poorer branch of the family may be found in the indenture of apprenticeship of Annie Willard to Thomas Kenchlie, husbandman, in 1616, and the similar indenture of Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Willard, late of Hailsham, gardener, to Thomas Willard, of Chiddingly, blacksmith, in 1639, to which George Willard was witness. We have seen that during the eighteenth century the manor of Ersham belonged to the Willards and consequently the name occurs in all assessments, &c., of that period. The last name that I shall mention is that of Thomas Rogers Willard, who was churchwarden from 1815 to 1820.





Photograph by

E. I. Baker.

OTHAM.—THE CHAPEL AND HOUSE.

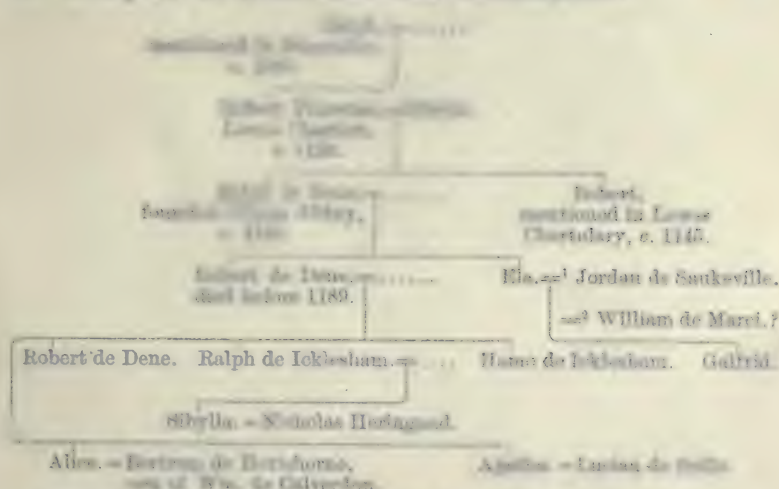


OTHAM.—SOUTH WALL OF CHAPEL.

*(From a Drawing by M. A. Lower; reproduced by permission of the
Sussex Archæological Society.)*

CHAPTER XII.

OTHAM is not mentioned in Domesday, but was probably included in the possessions of Ralph, who afterwards took the surname of de Dene from West Dean, where he had settled; at any rate, in Henry II.'s time we find it in the hands of his grandson, Ralph de Dene. Before going any further it may be as well to give a short pedigree of the family of de Dene and their connections:



In the reign of Henry II. Ralph de Dene founded an abbey on his land at Otham; it appears from the foundation charter that there was already a chapel on the spot, and this became the nucleus of a monastery of Benedictine monks. The abbey was a branch of the house of Otham at Domesday in 1086, and was founded by Ralph de Dene, who was a descendant of the family of de Dene. The abbey was founded in the reign of Henry II. and was a branch of the house of Otham at Domesday in 1086. The abbey was founded in the reign of Henry II. and was a branch of the house of Otham at Domesday in 1086.

It is interesting to note that the only Bishop of Exeter who was not a member of the family of de Dene was the Bishop of Exeter who was not a member of the family of de Dene.



E. I. Baker.

OTHAM. — THE CHAPEL AND HOUSE.

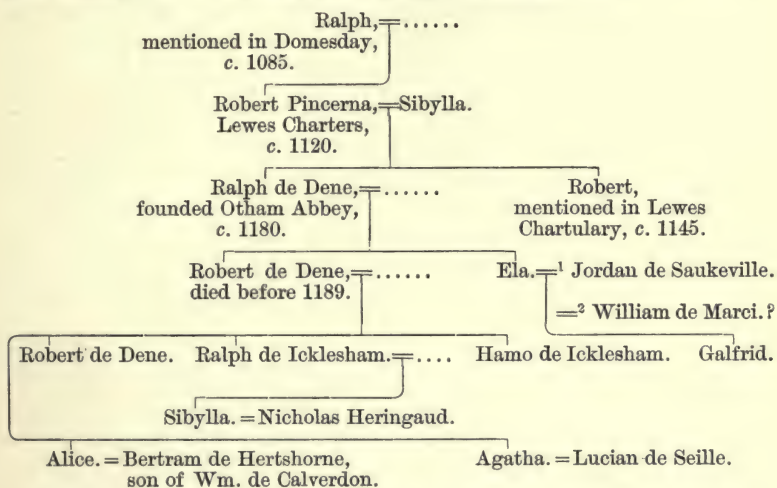


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In the reign of Henry II. Ralph de Dene founded an abbey on his land at Otham; it appears from the foundation charter that there was already a chapel on the spot, and this became the nucleus of a monastery of Premonstratensian Canons [a reformed branch of the Augustinians founded by Norbert at Premonstré in Picardy in 1121, and sometimes called White Canons from their dress]. The exact date of foundation is not known, but would appear from the names of the witnesses to the charter to have been about 1180.

²⁹⁵ FOUNDATION CHARTER.

Be it known to all sons of the holy Mother Church now and in the future that I, Ralph de Dena have given and granted to God and S^t

Mary and St Lawrence of Hotteham and to the Canons of the Premonstratensian order serving God in that place, for the erection of an abbey, all my demesne of Hotteham with the chapel in the same place and with all the appurtenances of that demesne, and also my bondmen at ²⁹⁶Dudintune, namely Gladuwine the brother of Speg, together with 5 solidates of land, John Cnokedune, Gilbert Carpenter, William Cnokedune, Hugo, Thomas de Farnstrete with his land, and Robert Bunt, Wlfi Wiver, and his heirs and the heirs of his brother Grig; and Sewal and Wlward and Walter; and the land which Fulkeri holds of me in Seford for which he pays yearly 1 pound of pepper and 8 pounds of wax. And besides these, I have given, the marsh of Megham as Ralph, my grandfather, held it; and all the marsh which belonged to Ulric, and the new marsh, as far as it belongs to me. All these I have given in frankalmoign And I have done this with the consent and assent of Robert my son and heir, for the good of my body and soul, and for the good of the body and soul of the said Robert and my heirs; and for the good of the body and soul of my lord king Henry and of his children: and for the souls of my father and mother and of all my ancestors; and also of my descendants.

WITNESSED by: Roger son of Reimfre, Richard son of William,
 William de Warenne, Adam de Puninges,
 Jocelin son of Reimfre, Michael de Turnham,
 Galfrid de Saccavile, Robert de Hicclesham,
 Ralph the Clerk, Eustace de Monte,
 William de St Alban.

Dugdale also gives another shorter charter, making similar grants with the addition of "the hide of Ambe-feld which I hold of Richard de Horsenden."

Robert, the son of Ralph, also made certain grants to the Abbey:

I Robert de Dene give to God and the canons of Otteham in frankalmoign all the land that I have in ²⁹⁷Telletone with all the appurtenances thereof, and also my fishery in the marsh with its appurtenances; and this gift I make on condition that the canons pay such service for it as I have been paying. Witnessed by: Robert de Gallun my uncle, Manasses Aguillun, Galfrid de Saukeville, Roland de Esquitade, Richard Buissun, Ralph Esquines, Reinald de St Alban and others.

By another charter, to which is attached his ²⁹⁸seal, bearing a cross within a pentacle surmounted by a crescent and star—a mystic combination that suggests that its bearer had been in one of the Crusades—he grants "20^s rent in the vill of Dene, namely the tenement of John de Tya paying 4^s, that of Robert Bercarius

²⁹⁶ Dudington was on the borders of Hailsham and Folkington.

²⁹⁷ Tilton in Selmeston.

²⁹⁸ "S.A.C.," Vol. V.

(the shepherd) 6^s, that of Simon de Pevensel 7^s, that of Walter Newman (*novi hominis*) 2^s, and that of Ralph Frankelein 12^d; with the tenements and the men themselves; and half a marc rent in Mereshale and the advowson of the church of Westdene." (Mr. Cooper ²⁹⁸ asserts that this refers to the chapel of Exceit in that parish, as West Dean Church had been granted to Grestein Abbey by the Earl of Moretain; but by the Bayham Chartulary it seems that Exceit Chapel was given by Roger de la Ware, and though Grestein held East Dean Church till the seizure of their English estates in 1415, West Dean was not then in their possession.)

The first of these two grants was afterwards disputed; ²⁹⁹ Bertram de Hertshorne and Alice his wife, Lucian de Seille and Agatha his wife, Richard de Verdun and Amice his daughter in 1198 claiming against the Abbot of Otteham a knight's fee in Telletun and marsh in Pevenes and Heilesham. A compromise was effected, the Abbot paying 60^s and the claimants waiving their rights to the land in question and confirming it to the abbey:

³⁰⁰(79.) Alard archdeacon of London: be it known to all that Agatha daughter of Robert son of Ralph, and Bertram son of William de Calverdon husband of Alice sister of the said Agatha in his own name and that of his wife, in my presence have sworn upon the Holy Gospels that they will strictly hold to the agreement made between them and the canons of Oteham concerning land which belonged to Ralph de Dene their ancestor in Teleton and in the marshes of Aylesham and Pevense.

Another grant of land in Tilton, or probably a purchase or exchange, was made a few years later:

(77.) I Robert by the Grace of God abbot of S^t Mary of Grestein have granted to the Abbot and canons of Oteham 30 virgates of land of our fee in the vill of Telleton; Given the Sunday before the feast of S^t Margaret, virgin, the 3rd year after the first coronation of King John; Witness,—Hugh de Warwic and ³⁰¹William de Dena.

Amongst the Sussex charters preserved in the Bodleian Library is a very interesting rental of the manors of

²⁹⁹ Feet of Fines, 9^o Ric. I. [*Cal.*].

³⁰⁰ Add. MSS., 6,037, Transcript of Bayham Chartulary: numbers within brackets throughout this chapter refer to the charters in this MS.

³⁰¹ The only mention I have seen of this member of the family.

Tilton and Otham, apparently compiled about 1200. It is very much faded, but with a few exceptions is just legible; quotations from it are given by Mr. Cooper from a transcript made some fifty years ago, when the writing was perhaps clearer, as one or two names which he states occur therein I have been utterly unable to find any trace of; his transcript has, however, been of considerable assistance to me in one or two places where words have almost vanished.

⁸⁰² Rents due from Teltun.

At Wilmentun 15^s at four periods of the year. Also to the same court for sheriff's aid 1½^d yearly of which we ourselves pay ½^d.

Jordan de Saukeville to the sheriff's aid 3^s 4^d of which we ourselves pay 31^d. Also to the Hundred we ourselves pay 1^d at four terms of the year. Also ⁸⁰³ Rompani 1^d at the feast of St Peter ad Vincula. To the Castle Ward of Pevenes half a marc, that being the amount due for a knight's fee; and Heccage is to be performed for the same castle when it falls due; of this we ourselves pay 8½^d; and it is to be observed that when Heccage occurs our tenants shall do an (eighth) part and we are bound ourselves to do the whole fully except the service which the said tenants do.

Rents due from Oteham.

At Sessingeham 3^s; at Michelham 12^d; to the church of Wylandun 12^d within a fortnight of Easter. To the Hundred 4^d yearly; to the Rompani 1^d for Farnstrete. To the Castle Ward of Pevenes from Dudinton and Thorne 3^s, whereof our tenants pay 5^d yearly for Farnstrete. To the sheriff's aid 3½^d yearly for Farnstret.

Services which are due to the Court of Otteham.

Hugh de Dudinton is bound to carry manure for 3 days and to ⁸⁰⁴ work one day in every fifteen, and three parts of his work at Otteham and Teletun are due in the autumn, also he is bound one day to mow the meadow, another day to collect (the hay) and a third day to store it. Also he is bound one day to cut brushwood wherever may be appointed him and one day to carry the same; also he owes one cart-load of wood. And one day to carry corn from the marsh and to stack it, and one day to carry hay in the marsh, and one day to wash sheep and one to shear them, and similarly the lambs. Also one part of his ploughing is due in winter and one day's harrowing, and in Lent one part of his ploughing and two days harrowing.

And the others owe the same service, and every man of Dudinton who holds half a virgate of land is bound to make half a seam of oat

⁸⁰² Sussex Charters, 6*.

⁸⁰³ "Peter's pence," the sum of 1d. paid annually to the See of Rome for every household.

⁸⁰⁴ *Averare*, to work with animals, or to act as carter.

meal against Christmas; and so is Adam de Heppehale. Moreover each of them, that is to say every one who has half a virgate of land is bound to bring an amber of salt from the salt-pan at Otteham.

Robert the cobbler is bound to share all the above with the said Hugh de Dudintun.

Rents from Theletun.

William —; 2 hens, 20 eggs.

Alan —; at Michelmas 2 hens, 10 eggs.

the same for other land; 16^d at the four terms.

the same for a certain croft; 7^d at the Purification and Feast of S^t John Baptist.

Ralph gardener; 10^d at Michelmas, 2 hens, 10 eggs.

Adam the shepherd (*Bercarius*); 5^d at one term, 1 hen, 5 eggs.

A. ad saccar'; 12^d at the four terms, 1 hen, 5 eggs.

Matthew Coopere; 12^d at the four terms, 1 hen, 5 eggs.

Rents from Otteham.

William Godard; 3^s, 1 hen, 13 eggs.

Baldwin Runt; 2^s, 1 hen, 12 eggs.

John le Herre; 3^s, 1 hen, 13 eggs.

Eilwin Carpenter; 3^s, 1 hen, 13 eggs.

The land of Matilda Grille: 3^s, 1 hen, 13 eggs.

Thomas the cobbler (*sutor*); 3^s, 1 hen, 13 eggs.

Simon Salter; 18^d, half a hen, 7 eggs.

Peter le Couverer; 12^d, 1 hen.

Gilbert Parcher; 12^d.

Eilwin de Heppehal; 6^s 6^d, 2 hens, 15 eggs.

John de Dittun; 2^s at Christmas and Feast of S^t Laurence.

The mill of Thorne and land near; 10^s.

Thomas de Radediche, 3^s 4^d.

— Dru; 3^s, 1 hen, 13 eggs.

Robert Nokdon; 3^s, 1 hen, 13 eggs.

Robert Couerer; 3^s, 1 hen, 13 eggs.

Thomas de Bestinover; 3^s at Feast of S^t Thomas.

Robert Ward for land of Pevenes; 8^d on S^t Laurence's day.

Simon de Hidneye; 10^s 1^d on S^t Thomas' day.

Gilbert de Barcum (?); 5^s 4^d at the four terms.

Richard Mageham; half a marc.

Alphege de Mireshal; 12^d.

Land of —; 2^s.

Land of Burne; 12^s on Trinity Sunday.

In the first paragraph "Heccage" requires some explanation; the word occurred in William Marmion's charter in Chapter III., where I said that the meaning was unknown; since that was written, however, I have found the following note in "S.A.C.," Vol. VI.: "In 4^o King John Hugh Dyve, lord of East Haddon, co. Northants, claimed against Henry Dyve his mesne tenant

the service of inclosing a certain hay upon the vallum of the King's Castle of Pevensey, being the alleged tenure pertaining to a knight's fee which he held of him in Brampton, Northants." This, it will be noticed, is just about the date of our rental; moreover amongst the Otham charters is one (56) by which Hugh de Diva gives to the Canons of Otteham, "the land which they hold in my fee of Otteham." This gives us the connecting link between the service mentioned and Heccage, which is evidently derived from the Saxon *haeg* (Old German *heck*), a hedge or hay, Latinised into *haga*, of which one meaning is a military rampart formed of palisades, in other words a stockade, and Heccage was therefore a tenure by which the holders of certain lands were obliged to keep up a certain portion of a defensive palisade, just as in a well-known tenure the tenants have to keep up a portion of the churchyard fence.

The service due from Hugh of Dudinton would amount to very nearly seven weeks' work altogether, unless, as I am inclined to think is the case, the details refer to the work that was to be done on the "one day in every fifteen," and are not in addition thereto. The "land of Burne" was no doubt the gift of John de Horsenden, who gave one hide of his fee of the manor of Burne, for a yearly rent of 10^s, the charter (62) being witnessed by Gilbert de Burna, William Maufe, Richard de Essetes, William Gulafre and Laurence de Horseia.

Before proceeding to give a list of the various benefactions received by the Abbey, it may be as well, in order to avoid confusion, to trace its history, or rather its short and uneventful life, as an independent monastic house. This may be very quickly done: the position of Otham was soon found to be very inconvenient; situated out in the marshes and even now almost inaccessible after heavy rainfall it must in those days have been unhealthy and uncomfortable to a degree; and after about twenty years proposals were made to remove the seat of the Abbacy; the first site offered was Hellingly, but about 1205 Sir Robert de Turnham determined to found an abbey at Bayham on the borders of Sussex and Kent, and for that

purpose transplanted a small colony of Premonstratensians who had settled at Brockley in Kent; and as these were not enough for an abbey of the size of his new foundation he also obtained the leave of Ela de Sackville, the patron of Otham, to remove the latter establishment to this more favourable situation; so that after that date Otham ceased to be more than a grange of Bayham Abbey. We may now turn to the consideration of its benefactors and their gifts.

Ela de Saukeville :

(36.) All the land which Alwin le Crop held of Ralph de Dene my father in the marsh of Pevenes : Witness ; Wm. Maufe, Ric. de Cumba, and Wm. de Sellington.

(37 and 38.) All the land in Twisele, Thorn, and Farnstrete, that Gerard de Twisele held of me in the fee of Gilbert de Aquila and William de Warberton, to provide oil for one lamp which shall burn perpetually day and night in the church of Otteham before the altar of St Laurence : Witness ; Wm. de Sessingham ; Wm. de Chaines, Robt de Horsenden.

(42.) Galfrid de Saukeville confirms these grants of Ela his mother : Witness ; Jordan abbot of Otteham, Ralph de Marci, Wm. Maufe.

Of the lands thus granted, Farnstrete was near "Cop Hall," where the parishes of Jevington and Hailsham meet. Thorne was an estate of considerable extent in the neighbourhood of "Thorn House," near Polegate; in an action brought by the lord of Otham manor in 1685 Thornelands are said to contain 100 acres in Westham; and in a rental of 1661 Partridge Thorne near Swynes hill and adjoining Farne streate is mentioned; close also to Swines hill are Great and Little Millands, which may well mark the site of the mill of Thorne mentioned above. Charter (40) is a grant by Ela de Saukeville of the marsh of Thorne to Alexander le la Redediche (Red Dyke, not far from Stone Cross). Twisele I cannot locate, but it would appear to be further east, in the neighbourhood of Crowhurst, as there is in the ³⁰⁵ Lewes Chartulary a grant by Ralph de Dena of "the lands of del West de Thorna and those of Chroerst membru' de Havetwisel, which lands Robert pincerna his father had given to the priory." Robert de Warbertune appears in

³⁰⁵ "S.A.C.," Vol. XXXV.

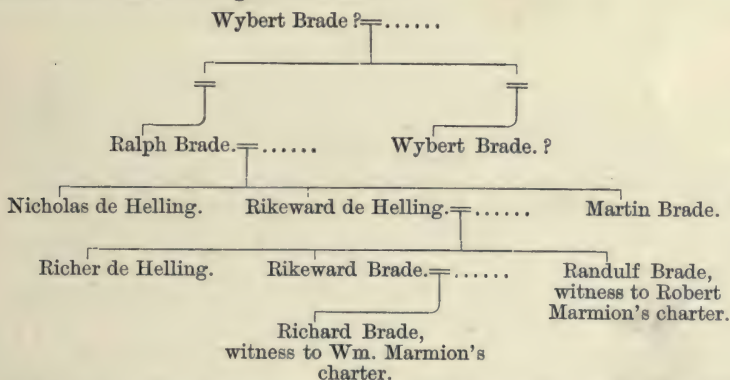
the Bayham Chartulary as (51) confirming the grant of Twisele which Ralph de Dene held of him, and (59) gives to the abbey in frankalmoign "Robert Macon, with his land."

(34-35) About 1205 Ela de Saukeville, widow, gives leave to the Canons on account of the great and intolerable discomforts of Ottenham to remove to Begham "quae dicitur Beuliu," and at the same time confirms previous grants made by herself and her ancestors, reserving to herself the advowson; amongst the witnesses to her charter are Robert abbot of Boxley, William abbot of Robertsbridge, William abbot of Cumbwelle, Hugh and Reginald de Fokinton, Randulf de Haia and Galfrid de St. Leger (who had previously ⁸⁰⁶ given his serf Eadward Creppe to the abbey). This charter is confirmed (43) by Galfrid her son, and a similar charter is given by (143) Robert de Turnham, the founder and patron of Begham, which is here again spoken of as "Beuliu;" and, indeed, compared with Otham, it is a "beautiful place," and the abbey there built was worthy of the site, as anyone will agree who has seen the graceful ruins that still stand, though constantly lessening. We have seen that Ela de Saukeville retained the right of presentation, and in 1272 Jordan, son of Jordan de Saukeville, after confirming to Bayham the various charters of his ancestors, adds (304) "and the said canons are bound to admit on my presentation or that of my heirs one clerk, being a fit person, to a canonry, and after him another and so from clerk to clerk in succession for ever; and he shall celebrate divine rites for the welfare of myself and my wife Margery." Which right of presentation (305) John abbot of Begeham allows.

Shortly after this date Ela de Saukeville appears to have married again, as (41) William de Marci and Ela his wife gave "to God and S^t Laurence of Ottenham a yearly rent of 6^d for the bettering of the meals of the convent on S^t Laurence's day; Witness: Hamo and William de Marci and Wm. Maufe and William his son."

From this occurring in the chartulary between the grants by Ela de Saukeville and the confirmations thereof by her son Galfrid I have concluded that the two Elas are the same, in which case the grant must either have been made to the two or three canons left in charge of the chapel at Otham when the convent migrated, or between the permission to remove and the actual translation to Bayham; unless when she speaks of herself—in the charter of removal—as acting “in viduitate et ligia potestate mea,” she means to imply that she was acting in the right of her former husband, which is perhaps the most likely explanation.

Next to the founder and his descendants the greatest benefactors of the monastery were the family of Brade, who took their name from “the Broad” estate in Hellingly; some of the members of the family bore the name of de Helling. I subjoin a sketch pedigree of their apparent relationships to one another as gathered from the charters given below:



(88.) Rikeward de Helling gives to the canons of Oteham: 20 acres of land in my fee in the marsh, for which they have given me half of the mill of Hellingel which they hold of Ralph de Brade, on condition that neither I nor my heirs shall raise the pond higher than it is customarily nor do anything by which the meadow of the same canons may suffer damage.

(103.) Richer son of Rikeward de Helling gives: my mill of Helling.

(104.) The abbot of Robertsbridge quit claims to the abbot of Begeham 10^s yearly rent from his mill of Helling of the gift of Richer de Hellingel.

(67.) Riceward de Helling and Randolph Brade witness grant by Richard de Weliland of 12^d yearly rent to be received from the monks of Robertsbridge.

⁸⁰⁷ William de Bugel gives: all the land which I hold in the marsh between Pevenes and Halesham of the fee of Rikeward de Hellingel, to be held by payment of half a pound of pepper on Christmas Eve.

(84.) Endowment of the church by Nicholas eldest son of Ralph de Brade (see p. 103); witnessed by Henry de Brade.

(85.) Confirmation of this grant, by William de Cahaines.

(82.) I, Nicholas son of Ralph Brade, have granted to Martin my brother my inheritance of which I am seised in the court of Richer de Aquila by the consent of Richard de Cahaines my lord. . . . And I have given to the canons of Ottenham half a virgate of land of the fee of the same Richard in Hellingel besides 12 denariates which William de Meriefeld holds with which I endowed the church of Helling when Bishop Seffrid II consecrated it: this I have done for the welfare of myself and of my lord William de Cahaines and Gunnora his wife.

(87.) I Rikeward de Hellinge have given to God and the church of the holy apostle Peter and Paul of Hellingel a croft near the church, which William Scarlet held of me at a yearly rent of 4^d, and six perches of my moor to enlarge the churchyard: Witness; Wm. Maufe, Wm. and Reginald Trushavill and Adam Rufus.

(86.) Rikeward Brade of Helling gives to Otham: half of the church of Helling, for the soul of my lord Rikar de Aquila and for the soul of my father Rikeward de Helling.

(49.) I Edelina de Aquila have confirmed to the convent of Ottenham the half of the church of Hellinge by the grant of Gilbert my son which Rikeward Brade of Hellinge gave to God and the Blessed Mary and S^t Laurence and the canons of Ottenham.

(296.) The bishop on the presentation of Rikeward and Randolph Brade inducts the canons of Ottenham to Hellingly church (see p. 103).

(100.) Richard de Helling gives: the land of Moderlac which Gormund de Moderlac held of my father.

(101.) The same gives: all my portion of Peche: witness, Ric. Oildebuf and Walerand de Munceux.

(71.) Ailbriht Clivie gives: land in the marsh of the fee of Rikeward and Randulf Brade.

(78.) Rikeward and Randulf Brade were witnesses to the renunciation by Agatha daughter of Robert de Dene of her claim to lands held by the abbey in Tilton, in 1198.

(94.) Rikeward de Brade of Helling gives: land in the marsh which Wlfrie held.

(89.) Rikeward de Brade gives: all the land that Richard de Ponte held and all my portion of the moor called Langene and my portion of the field called Melne—so that our mill do not suffer damage either

⁸⁰⁷ Bodleian, Sussex Charters, 1; possibly this William was a descendant of the William who held Boghele in Domesday.

from them or from me : further, I have given leave to the same canons to transfer the site of their abbey from Oteham to the church of Helling or to what other place they prefer in their own lands: Witness, Wm. Maufe, Randulf Brade, Wm. de Helling.

(95-98.) Randulf de Brade confirms the above gifts : for the souls of my lord Richer de Aquila and my lord Gilbert de Aquila. Further, I have given leave to the said abbot and canons on account of the great poverty that they have long endured at Oteham to transfer the site of their abbey to the church of Helling or to Melgrave if they will : Witness, Richard Brade, Rikeward de Helling.

(99.) The same gives to S^t Mary of Begeham ; a virgate of land which Nicholas de Helling my uncle gave to them.

(102.) Richard Brade confirms to Begham the gifts which Rikeward Brade his father had made to them.

(404.) Jordan abbot of Otteham : we have received Wybert Brade to become a canon in our church of Otteham, on the presentation of Ralph Brade his ⁸⁰⁸grandson (or cousin), on condition that after the death of the said Wybert the said Ralph or his heirs shall present to us another person, being fit and agreeable to our order, and we shall receive him kindly and make him a canon according to our rule, and after him another, and so on.

I have mentioned in connection with Hellingly Church a charter by Edelina de Aquila, and there are three charters by her son Gilbert, the founder of Michelham Priory :

(46.) Gilbert de Aquila confirms the grants made by Ralph and Robert de Dene : This confirmation I have made for the welfare of my soul and body and for the souls of my wife and children and for the soul of my father Richer and for the welfare of the Lady Edelina my mother and of Richer my brother: Witness ; The Lady Edelina my mother, Richer my brother, Engenulf the clerk my brother, Wm. de Caines, Hugh de Hassoham, Wm. Maufe.

(47.) Gilbert de Aquila grants to Otteham : 120 acres of land on the Dikere near Wyseke above Peneham, and two trees, one oak and one beech, to be taken yearly in the Octaves of S^t John the Baptist in my forest under supervision of my foresters, and 60 cart loads of peat in my moor of Pevenese to be taken yearly so long as the moor shall last, and when the moor shall have come to an end I or my heirs shall give 2^s 6^d rent in the town of Pevenese, also pannage for 20 pigs in my forest : Witness, Hugh the clerk of Esceham, and others as in last charter.

(48.) A.D. 1219. Gilbert de Aquila grants to Begeham : 60 acres of land lying between ⁸⁰⁹Eppehale and the Castelry of Otteham, for which they have given him all their land in Michelham (which had been given by Robert and William de Sessingham and Robert de

⁸⁰⁸ *Nepos*, properly a grandson, but in low Latin frequently a cousin.

⁸⁰⁹ *Hephale* on Priesthawes estate, now corrupted into " Hip Holes !"

Horsenden) and have quit claimed to him all their claim against him on either side of the house of Ottenham in land and moor of the gift of Ralph de Dene: Witness; Simon and Wm. de Echingham, Galfrid de Saukeville, Richer de Aquila, Wm. Maufe, Randulf Brade.

The long list of benefactions may be brought to a close with a number of miscellaneous charters:

(61.) Ralph de Iclesham gives: two Flanders acres in the new marsh of Iclesham and grants the canons permission to enclose at their own expense one Bescate of land in the same marsh, but they are to protect this from the sea: This I have done for the soul of Ralph de Dene my grandfather who founded the said church: Witness; Vincent de Ria, Robert and Hamo my brothers, Bertram de Gestling (possibly the same as Bertram de Hertshorne the donor's brother-in-law).

(56.) Hugh de Diva gives: the land which they hold in my fee of Ottenham: Witness; Martin my chaplain, Ralph de Diva my brother, and Hamo de Iclesham.

(57.) Hugh de Diva gives: the land which Agnes who was wife of Hugh de Lampa held of my fee in the marsh beyond the port of Pevenes.

(52.) Turstan son of Gilbert de Hodings gives: half a hide of land in Lamport which had belonged to William the son of ⁸¹⁰Boselin: Witness; Gotcline son of Reinfred, Michael de Turnham, Walerand de Herst, Wm. de Ricarville, Randulf de Horsei, Reginald de Clintune.

(53.) John son of Turstan de Hodings gives: the homage of John de Hydenia for one hide of land in Lamport.

(54.) Robert de Marci and Hysabel daughter of William de Lebes his wife confirm the gifts of Turstan de Hodinge: and be it known that for this charter the canons have given to us two Bezants: Witness; Ric. de Hydeni.

(50.) Ralph de Belevale gives: a third part of that salt-pan called the Guldenesaltkote.

(58.) Randulf de Horsye gives: one acre of land near the house of Richard Gulafre; this I have done with the consent of Laurence my son and heir.

(60.) William Maufe gives: land at Kenerede: Witness; Guy and Peter Maufe.

(63.) Hugh de Palema gives: the land which Galfrid de Didtuna holds of me at Didtuna, with the said Galfrid and his children: Witness; Ric. Camerarius, Alured de Chilleya, Osbert my son.

(64.) William de Horsted gives: all the land which they hold of my fee in the marsh of the gift of Ralph de Dena: Witness; Randulf Brade, Wm. de Sessingham.

(65.) Daniel son of Adam gives: all his rent of Hertham, Hya and Horsia: Witness; Dom. Anchitel prior of Boxgrave, Master

⁸¹⁰ Boselin was brother to Hugh de Diva.

Mathew de Waldis, Thomas de Bestenover, Stephen son of Stephen. [These lands were give to Adam by (74) Emma widow of Ranulf de Wurthe and daughter of William de Horsted.]

(65.) Robert the Falconer of Wudington gives : 6 acres of land called Yeldelond on the Lewes road to provide lights on the day of St. Laurence for the souls of my father and mother and for the soul of Matilda my wife who is buried there.

(66.) Nicholas Hereward gives : 3 acres and one perch of land, the canons to do service to the King as for a quarter of a virgate, 14 virgates making a knight's fee : Witness ; Wm. Gulafre, Robt. Burnand.

(69.) Richard de Aelricheston son of Andrew gives : land of Pekelea.

(70.) Adam de Cobeford gives : a croft which Joceline the chaplain held and two acres which Ralph de Abrichtesham held of his demesne : Witness ; Gilbert the parson of Chitinges, Randulf Brade.

(72.) Hugh de Wilendon gives : half an acre of meadow near the meadow of Richard Wileb and Job the son of Norman, for the soul of Richard de Wilendon his father, and for the welfare of his lord Symon de Echingham : Witness ; Ric. de Oylebuf.

(73.) Gervase de Wannoc gives : half an acre of meadow in ⁸¹¹Colebroc, for the soul of Matilda his wife : Witness ; Ric. de Cnoke, Galfrid de Ditton, Job de Wilendone (doubtless Job the son of Norman).

The grants made to the Abbey of Bayham after the migration from Otham do not fall within the scope of this work, except in so far as they concern the parish of Hailsham, as in the following examples :

⁸¹²I Herbert de Burgherse have given to Richard the summoner of Lewes for his service 12 acres of land in the marsh of Heilsham adjoining on the South the land which Matilda de Linderse formerly held in dower, and on the East extending from La Flete to the lands of the Abbot of Beghehame ; for a yearly rent of the third part of one marc, the third part of pound of pepper and the third part of a pound of cumin, to be paid at the four terms of the year : Witness ; Remigius de Bosco (atte Wood) Remigius de ecclesia (atte church) Simon de la Cnocke (of Knock-Hatch) and Henry de la Dune (of Downash).

(281.) Richard the summoner of Lewes gives : 12 acres in the marsh of Heylesham which I bought from Sir Herbert de Berghers.

(282.) Herbert de Burgherse confirms the gift.

(109.) Richard de Heyleham called Remyot gives to Begham : 7 acres of land in the parish of Heyleham.

(110.) John Remyot of Heylesham gives : 7 acres there.

⁸¹¹ Coolbrook in Hailsham.

⁸¹² Bodleian, Sussex Charters, 6.

1306. ³¹³Pardon to the Abbot of Begeham for acquiring:

14½ acres and 5s 3d rent in Horseye and Haylesham of the gift of John Crop.

2 acres in Dudynton given by Neuman de Dudynton.

3d rent in Haylesham by Nicholas Man; the like by John Remyot; the like by William Pouke.

4d rent in the same place given by Richard Turk; the like by Simon de Haylesham.

The seat of the abbacy having been removed to Bayham, of which Jordan, the abbot of Otham, became the first head, the abbey buildings were probably converted into a grange or farm, a couple of monks remaining to administer the estate and serve the chapel. Of these buildings nothing now remains, save possibly a few blocks of sandstone forming the foundations of the walls of the present farm house. Nor are there any traces of the original church; it was very likely found needlessly large and after gradually falling into disrepair was replaced by the present structure; this is a small oblong erection of broken sandstone, some 40 feet in length, dating apparently from about 1350; there is a door at the west end and another on the south side, both blocked, the present entrance to the chapel, which is used as a stable, being on the north. The outline of the large east window is visible, but all its tracery has been destroyed; in the north wall is a window with remains of Decorated tracery, and another similar in the south wall (shown in the ³¹⁴plate), on which side are also a piscina and single sedile; the site of the altar is indicated by a rise in the level of the floor at the east end.

From the beginning of the thirteenth century to 1526, when the Abbey of Bayham was suppressed, notices of Otham are few, the earliest being afforded by the Hundred Rolls:

³¹⁵Hundred of Burne: Richard de Pevenes, the Queen's steward, came to the fair at Otteham and took measures of beer and loaves of

³¹³ Pat., 34 Edw. I., m. 32 [*Cal.*].

³¹⁴ Reproduced by permission of the Committee of the Sussex Archaeological Society from "S.A.C.," Vol. V.

³¹⁵ I do not understand why Otham should be under the Hundred of Burne at this time.

bread, and did not test the measures or weights but fined all at his pleasure. Also the canons of Otteham take toll at the fair at Otteham, where they ought not to take it; and they have done so for the last four years.

This question of the fair, whose existence is commemorated by the name Fair Place, was considered in the assize of 1278, when the Abbot of Begeham is presented by the Hundred of Burn for holding a fair at Otteham and taking toll there; he pleads that his church has been seised of this right from time immemorial and gains his case. More details are given in the "*Placita de Quo Warranto*" of the same year.

The Liberty of the Abbot of Begeham: The same abbot claims to have in his manor of Otteham one fair yearly, on the eve of S^t Laurence and on S^t Laurence's day. The jurors find, that if the fair at Otteham occurs on a Saturday, the fair belongs and ought to belong to Eleanor Queen of England, the king's mother, by the laws of the Barony of Aquila.

In the "*Taxatio Ecclesiastica*" of 1291 the Abbot of Begenham is returned as holding "Oteham, £2. 10s. 2d.; Marsh at Aylesham £6," and a grant of Free Warren was obtained for the same two places in 1328.

1311. ³¹⁶Simon de Hydenye, Justin de Bothel, John le Bakere, James de Craule, Simon Litlewatte, Bartholomew de Whyte Dyke, William atte Bereghe, Walter Crop and others of Pevensey were attached by the abbot of Begeham on a charge that they seized at Otteham, 4 horses of the value of £4, 8 oxen of the value of £10, 12 cows of the value of £8, 1 bull of the value of 20^s, 12 young oxen of the value of £8, 37 pigs of the value of £4, to his damage of £300: Simon claims that Otteham is within the Liberty of Pevensey, which the abbot denies: a day is appointed them; and Simon does not appear.

The further course of this suit does not appear. Apparently, from a similar complaint by the Prior of Michelham, the beasts had been seized as a distraint for tallage. Whatever may have been the case at this time Otham was, as we have seen, certainly within the Liberty at a later period. The next reference that we have again refers to the removal of property from Otham, but this time without any pretence of legality:

³¹⁷John Hunt and his men came to the manor of the Abbot of Beggeham at Hotteham on Sunday after the feast of S^t Michael

³¹⁶ Coram Rege, Hil., 5 Edw. II.

³¹⁷ Assize Roll, 941.

24th Edw. III, entered his house and stole corn and other provision and took hares and rabbits in his warren and broke the windows of the guest house: fined 12^d; surety of John Radde and John Wythot.

1446. ³¹⁸The Abbot of Begham was distrained in goods, namely 200 beasts of the value of £100, which were handed over by the commissioners to the porter of the king's castle of Pevensey, that he should pay homage to the king for his manor of Ottenham and for other lands which he holds of the king as of his Duchy of Lancaster by knight service.

Two leases of the manor are preserved in the Bodleian; by the ³¹⁹first of these, 1404, Robert Frenesbury, abbot of Begham, lets for 30 years to Henry Bakere of Burgersh and John Drew of Otham, the manor of Otham with lands, pastures, commons and a windmill, and all buildings, rents, herriots, court service, wards and maritage, and moveable goods, of which an inventory is given, including a leaden weight and a quern, and all the tithes belonging to the chapel of Otham; saving to the abbot and monks all the offerings at the altar there and the image of St. Laurence in gold, silver and wax, and one room and a stable, with free access to the same whenever required by them or their deputies, for a yearly rent of 5 marcs and to the prior and convent of Mychelham 25 marcs. By the ³²⁰second lease, 1503, Richard abbot of Begham lets to John A'Wod and Joan his wife, of Jevington, "a piece of land called Grate Otham adjoining the land called Lachewyshe on the East, Somerswysshe on the South, the highway from Borne to Haylsham on the West and the highway from Pevynsee to Lewys on the North;" for 40 years at rent of 10^s and three weeks' court service, they undertaking to pay tithes to Otham chapel and to eradicate "all the undergrowth called Fyrces (furze)."

On the 20th of January, 1526, the lands of Bayham Abbey, including Otham, were granted to Cardinal Wolsey, but the chapel of Otham appears to have continued in use for another 20 years or so and to have been regarded as a parish church, as is shown by the following

³¹⁸ Inq. Dy. of Lanc., I., 48, a note at the end of a survey of bounds of Hundred of Dill.

³¹⁹ Bodleian, Sussex Charters, 21.

³²⁰ Bodleian, Sussex Charters, 30.

inquisition of 1590, copied by ³²¹ Burrell from a deed in the possession of Charles Gilbert of Lewes in 1776:

32^o Eliz. Inquisition taken 9^o May, at the Queen's Court of Pevensy.

Edward Beedett of Hailsham aged 70 or thereabouts said on oath that for 60 years he has known Ottham to be a parish, that there was and is a chapel now there and that the lands belonging to the manor of Ottham (except Vearne Street which lieth in Jevington, and Heap-hale which lieth in Westham) have paid their tithes to Ottham and do still, and that W^m Kentisley owner of the said manor hath kept of his own charge two Priests, one after another, to say service in the said chapel; What the first Priest's name was he hath forgot; and why the said W^m Kentisley did put him then away he knoweth not; and at the time there was at Hailsham one Sir Tho^s Meeke Vicar there, and the said W^m Kentesley did agree with him to do service and his Household Service, so he went to Hailsham to service; and then afterwards this Sir Tho^s Meeke died, and then after him came Sir Bucklond and then the said W^m Kentesley and he could not agree for doing him service; and then he hired one Sir Pelham to do him service at Ottham; and so the said Pelham continued there both to serve the said W^m Kentesley the father while he lived, and after his death John his son, heir of the said manor, but how long he knoweth not; of which John Kentisley as both Owner and Heir of Ottham after the death of W^m his father one M^r James Gages Esq. did challenge the Parson's Corn Tithes as due to Hailsham and the said John denying to pay the same they did go in suit of law for the same, and then John Kentisley gave to James Gage the Overthrow by law.

Richard Tonywell of Godley, aged 70; similar evidence, and has been at service in the said chapel and received sacrament there.

John Swan of Hailsham, aged 72; similar evidence; has been at service in the said chapel.

John Collier of Herstmonceaux, aged 72; similar evidence; hath taken the Bread and Holy Water in the said chapel.

The name of the first priest at Otham is here stated to be unknown, but in 1542 the will of Elinor Kensley, wife of the lord of the manor, was witnessed by Roger Wallwayn, priest; and I have no doubt that he was the predecessor of Pelham. The reference to a suit with James Gage is borne out by his petition to Chancery, that:

³²² Whereas the king granted to him the tithes of the parsonage of Haylsham, one John Kentysley owner of the manor of Oteham in the parish of Haylsham "of his ungodly and froward disposicion not onely absteyneth to ley and appoynte oute the moste parte of the tythes

³²¹ Add. MSS., 5,681.

³²² Aug. Off. Misc. Books, 21.

of the corne and grayne growing upon the said mannor so that your suppliant mought thereby by dewe order of the lawe come to and atteyne the said tythes, and suche small part of tythes as he dothe laye out he dothe so evyll handle the same in castyng yt abrode to the dystrucon thereof that scassely any proffit may ryse of the same;" wherefore he prays that he may be summoned before the Court.

In a ⁹²³ deposition taken in 1670 in connection with a suit for tithes of certain demesne lands of Otham brought by the vicar of Hailsham :

William Milton of Otham, husbandman, aged 45: has heard his father and other ancient men say that the demesne of Otham was anciently parcel of the late monastery of Beaham or Michellham, or one of them, and that the lands within the precincts of Otham were free of tithes to the vicar of Hailsham and that the same was formerly a parish of itself, and he is induced to believe that it is true for he has an ancient deed (produced) concerning a small tenement where he dwells mentioning that it is within the parish of Otham; and the church of Otham is yet standing; and there is a composition of £3 per annum paid to the vicar of Hailsham by the owner of the manor for his tenants going to the church of Hailsham to service and christenings and burials, and for no other consideration, the church of Otham being in decay.

We now turn to the history of the manor after the suppression of Bayham Abbey.

⁹²³ Deposition by Commission, Hil., 22^o and 23^o Ch. II.

CHAPTER XIII.

THE possessions of Bayham Abbey having been granted to Wolsey's new college at Oxford in the early part of 1526, in a ³²⁴rental of the college in 1529 the manor of Oteham is valued at £1. 14s. 10½d. ³²⁵A detailed survey of the Otham estate at the time of the suppression is preserved in the Record Office.

Otham :

The full account of William Kentisley Bailiff and Lessee there, for one whole year ending at Michaelmas 17^o Henry VIII.

Arrears of preceding years	20 ^s
Rent; of freehold 11 ^s 9 ^d , of copyhold £6. 15.....	£7 6 9
Lease of the manor with appurtenances by deed under the seal of the convent to Wm. Kentisley and his heirs for 36 years from Michaelmas 14 ^o Henry VIII at yearly rent of 106 ^s 8 ^d , to be paid in equal portions on the feast of St. Peter ad Vincula and the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary	106 ^s 8 ^d
Lease of a parcel of the manor called Melsfelde, containing 40 acres, similarly let to Richard Kene from Michaelmas 19 ^o Henry VII for 80 years at rent of 13 ^s 4 ^d	13 ^s 4 ^d
Lease of a tenement containing 30 acres called Doddington, and of a meadow containing 5 acres called Pykestritts, similarly let to John Owell and Thomas Winswyste for 40 years from Michaelmas 19 ^o Henry VII at rent of 35 ^s and fifty hens	35 ^s
Lease of another tenement in the parish of Westham containing 100 acres similarly let to Richard King for 101 years from Michaelmas 2 ^o Henry VII at rent of 40 ^s	40 ^s
Lease of 15 acres at Newgate in Otham similarly let to Thomas Jordan for 101 years from Michaelmas 4 ^o Henry VII at rent of 6 ^s 8 ^d	6 ^s 8 ^d
Lease of land called Grete Otham similarly let to John Awod and Joan his wife for 40 years from Michaelmas 19 ^o Henry VII at rent of 10 ^s	10 ^s
Perquisites of the manor court, not yet received this year as no court had been held up to the time of compiling this account	n ^l
Sum total owing, with arrears, for the 17 th year ..	³²⁶ £19. 8. 2½ ^d { Arrears 20 ^s Issues £18. 8. 2½ ^d .

³²⁴ Aug. Off. Misc. Book, 117.

³²⁵ Exch. Tr. of R., A. ½.

³²⁶ Including 9s. 9½d. for the hens.

From which :

Money given to the late abbot of Begham by the said accountant from the issues of this year at various times: at one time, part of rent mentioned above, 5 ^s 10½ ^d , at another time, the price of the hens, 9 ^s 9½ ^d , and at another time £8. 6. 8; in all.....	} £9. 2. 4
Also, money delivered to Thomas Crumwell; from the arrears mentioned above	} 20 ^s
To the same Thomas Crumwell from the issues of this year at various times previous to this account	} 19 ^s 2½ ^d
Sum of payments	£11. 1. 6½
and he owes	£8. 6. 8

Respite:

To him for moneys received by the Prior of Michelham as yearly payment arising out of the manor at £16. 13. 4 per annum in discharge of his rights in the church of Haylesham and for certain other causes as appears by a deed in the hands of the said prior; for half of this year £8. 6. 8 besides £8. 6. 8, the remainder of the said sum paid by the late Abbot of Begham; the said £8. 6. 8 for the half year previous to this account is put in respite.

Sum of Respite £8. 6. 8.
And there remain n^l

After Wolsey's attainder the manor was granted in 1533 to ³²⁷Sir Edward Guildford, and in John Kenchley's reply to James Gage—see end of last chapter—he states that the Manor of Otham belonged first to the Abbey of Bayeham, then to the Cardinal Archbishop of York, and was then granted to Sir Edward Guldeford, who enfeoffed William Kentisley, his father. A slightly different version is given by a ³²⁸letter from Thomas, Prior of Michelham, to Norris:

My Lord Warden [George Boleyn, Lord Rochford] has obtained of the King the manor of Oteham amongst other lands of Begham Abbey lately suppressed by the cardinal. The prior and his predecessors have been seised of this manor for more than 200 years and have received 25 marcs yearly rent, which was paid when the Cardinal held it and while it remained in the hands of the King. Has also received 25 marks for one year's rent, the Lord Warden being owner. Clear value is 34^s 10½^d. The Lord Warden has now sold the manor to William Kenslye, reserving to himself the rent of 25 marcs unless the prior or his successors recover it by lawful judgment in the Kings courts. Asks him to assist him so that the Lord Warden may reform his indenture: and desires credence for the bearer. Michelham 4 May 1535.

³²⁷ Add. MSS., 5,681; Pat., 25^o Hy. VIII., p. 1. [*Cal.*].

³²⁸ "Letters and Papers of Henry VIII."

William Kenchley was succeeded by his son John, who, dying in 1563, left the manor to his wife, who appears to have married again, as in 1580 ³²⁹ Peter Woodgate died seised of 4 acres in Hailsham held of Elizabeth Howse, widow, as of her manor of Otham. ³³⁰ Burrell says that in 10° Elizabeth the manor was held by Mr. Gage, Mr. Darrell and Mr. Rootes in trust for Mr. Kensley, and that in 1601 Abraham Kenchly by will devised all the manor to James Snow, his sister's son, and made him executor; if he do not prove the will within a year he makes Kenchley Aley his heir: in 1610 James Thetcher, of Priesthawes, and John Ellis obtain the manor from James Rootes, of Alciston, and Thomas Rootes, of Lincoln's Inn, gentlemen, and John Snow, of Otham, yeoman, and Elizabeth, his wife; and in 1637 John Thetcher was lord of the manor. That Thatcher held land of the manor is true, but I doubt if Burrell is correct in assigning the manor to him; at any rate the manor of Otham was amongst the possessions of James Rootes, recusant, granted in 1626 to Shemaia Selhershe, but apparently recovered, as James Rootes, junior, in a ³³⁰ deposition made in 1670 states that about 46 years previously James Rootes was lord of the manor and that after his death he himself held the manor for ten years, till he sold it to Edmund Calverley and Richard Acton, which must have been some time between 1646, when ³³¹ James Rootes, Esq., lord of the manor of Ottham, granted a cottage and orchard in Hailsham to Robert Duplocke, and 1654, when ³³⁰ Edmund Calverley released the manor and farm to Richard Acton for £1,500. John Acton, son of this Richard, was lord of the manor in 1661, and eight years later the Court Rolls commence; there is also for the same date a rental, which is amongst the deeds belonging to the Sussex Archæological Society preserved at Lewes:

Ottham: A new and perfect rental, 29° Oct. 1669.

John Duncke gent. and Nicholas Selwyn gent. for the Mounts, 44 acres, near Swynes hill, in tenure of Henry Wymarke. And for Farnstreete, 43 acres, and Cuts croftes, in the hands of Thomas Selwyn Esq.	}	3 ^d 1 ^a
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³²⁹ Chancery Inq., 209-67.

³³⁰ Add. MSS., 5,681.

³³¹ Court Rolls.

John Duncke gent. for Partridge Thorne near Swynes Hill; bounded by the Mounts to the South, the highway to the North, and Farnstreete to the West	20 ^s relief 20 ^s 20 ^s heriot
Richard Lewes and Anne his wife daughter of John Akeherst gent. for Powlegate.....	6 ^s
Eliz. Paine widow, relict of Thos. Sherwyn for Duddletone and Cherrycroft	16 ^s 3 ^d
Edw. Paine Esq. for Swynes late M ^r Wm. Newmans....	12 ^s
Heirs of Rich. Winter for Hephale late Porters and before Giles, now in tenure of James Sherwyn	6 ^s
Anne Winter for little Millands, in tenure of Rich. Thetcher	13 ^s 4 ^d
John Hony gent. for Bakers adjoining Moorebrooke	18 ^d
Moses French for Dinesland late Bakers	3 ^s
Thos. Browning for Collingcroft late John Akehersts....	4 ^d
same for house, barn and lands called Thunders, late Abraham Sherwyns	10 ^d
same for Dynes croft at the Tolls in Hailsham, late Edlows	4 ^d
Thos. Bathe for Snowes croft	2 ^d
John Pym for Motts.....	4 ^d
same for house and barn called Bergecroft	12 ^d
Edw. Piddlesden in right of his wife, daughter of Thos. Browning, for Haslewoods	12 ^d
John Diplocke for Colliers late Wilkins and before Lucas	6 ^d
Roger Fillery for Drewes adjoining Moorebrooke late Abr. Thomas	12 ^d
Wm. Milton for lands in Hailsham sometime Greenfields	13 ^d
Thos. Asheson gent. and Thos. Lumley gent. for Merryfeilds, late Miles	8 ^d
same for Bentons alias the Totts adjoining Merryfeilds	6 ^d
Stephen Sumner gent for Great Millands, in tenure of Rich. Thetcher	26 ^s 8 ^d
Henry Hall for land in Arlington late Clerkes and before Ruddocks	12 ^d
John Reese for land adjoining Merryfeilds	2 ^d
Jane Easton for a copyhold cottage at Powlegate	4 ^d
Total	£8. 19. 9

The first-mentioned piece of land—the Mounts *alias* Mounse—was the occasion in 1686 of an ³⁹²action by John Acton, son of the above-mentioned John, against John Duncke for quit rent. Millands, the next most important item on the rental, also gave rise to a law

³⁹² Exch. Dep. by Com., 1^o Jas. II., Mich. 29.

suit, ³³³ John Wenham, vicar of Hailsham in 1670, claiming tithes thereon against Richard Thetcher, who at that time held the land. In the course of this suit Tobias Gyles of Aldfriston, gent, deposes that among the writings of Mr. Rootes, late lord of the manor of Otham, is a will of one Kensley, formerly lord of the manor, leaving Great Milllands to Abraham Kensley as demesne lands of Otham; and another deed of 10^o Elizabeth, by which Wm. and Abr. Kensley sold to John Russell of Aldfriston lands called Great Milllands, containing 40 acres. Thomas Stapely, husbandman, deposes that some 35 years since he was servant to one Master French, who held Little Milllands. ³³¹ Little Milllands came to Anne Barnet, widow, by grant of her father, Nicholas Winter, previous to 1680, and at the court of 1716 the death of Thomas Barnet, her son, is presented, “*unus juvenis, anglice a Runt*,” having been seized as heriot; John Hicks purchased the estate from his heirs and was succeeded by his son William in 1778. Great Milllands were alienated by Stephen Sumner in 1679 to John Mawson of London, goldsmith; in 1739 is presented the death of Wm. Woodhams, who held Great Milland, late Thatchers, Walter Woodhams being his son and heir; Walter dying in 1780 the estate passed to his ³³⁴ eldest son William, after whose death, presented in 1827, four successive incumbents of South Malling held it: 1827, Rev. Ch. Harison; 1832, Rev. T. Oliver Goodchild; 1839, Rev. Henry Watkins; 1842, Rev. Wm. Courthope, who is the last owner mentioned.

The rent of 25 marcs formerly payable to the prior of Michelham had upon the dissolution of that monastery fallen to the Crown, and in 1670 the ³³⁵ Trustees for the sale of Fee-farm Rents sold to John Lyndsay, goldsmith, of London, and John Kent of Westminster, amongst other rents, £16. 13s. 4d. for Ottham, payable by John Acton. This rent had on two previous occasions had the

³³³ Exch. Dep. by Com., 22^o Chas. II., Mich. 15, and 22^o and 23^o Ch. II., Hil. 10.

³³⁴ In an article on “*Borough English*” in “*S.A.C.*,” Vol. VI., the custom is said to hold in the manor of Otham, but the Court Rolls show that this is not so.

³³⁵ Claus., 25^o Ch. II. [*Cal.*].

honour of forming part of a queen's income, being settled by ³³⁶ Henry VIII. on Anne of Cleves, and by ³³⁷ Charles II. in 1663 on Queen Catherine. By a ³³⁸ lease of 1692 John Acton of Ripe, gent, for £900 grants to John Fuller of Waldron, Esq., and his heirs for ever 100 acres of land in Hailsham of the demesne of the manor of Otham, John Fuller to pay £4 Lord's rent, and 30s. tithes in discharge of the rent of £16. 13s. 4d. due from John Acton to the Crown.

³³⁹ In 1694 John Acton sold the manor to Thomas Medley, of Coneyburrows, near Lewes, Esq., with whose descendants it remained for 180 years. ³⁴⁰ The Medleys were an ancient family originally settled in Yorkshire and apparently connected with the family of Thornhill, who, with several other Yorkshire families claimed descent from Asolf, a large landowner of Henry I.'s time. They bore for arms: *arg.* two bars gemelles and in chief 3 mullets *sable* (a variation—*sa.* 2 bars gemelles, *arg.* on a chief of the second 3 mullets of the ground—was also used concurrently) and a crest, granted to Robert Medley of London, in 1580, a tiger sejant *vert*, tufted and maned *or.* Benedict Medley, of Warwickshire, was clerk of the signet to Henry VII., and his eldest daughter married Thomas Shuckburgh, whose descendant in the ninth degree married the eventual heiress of the Medley family in 1785. Thomas Medley, the first of the family in Sussex, was second son of Thomas, who was son of John Medley by his wife Mary, daughter of John Alchorn, of Boughton Monchensy, in Kent; he was owner of many manors and steward for a number of others; in his portrait, which with others of his family is preserved at Buxted, he is represented sitting near a bookcase on which are a score of books with the name of a manor on the back of each. He was succeeded in

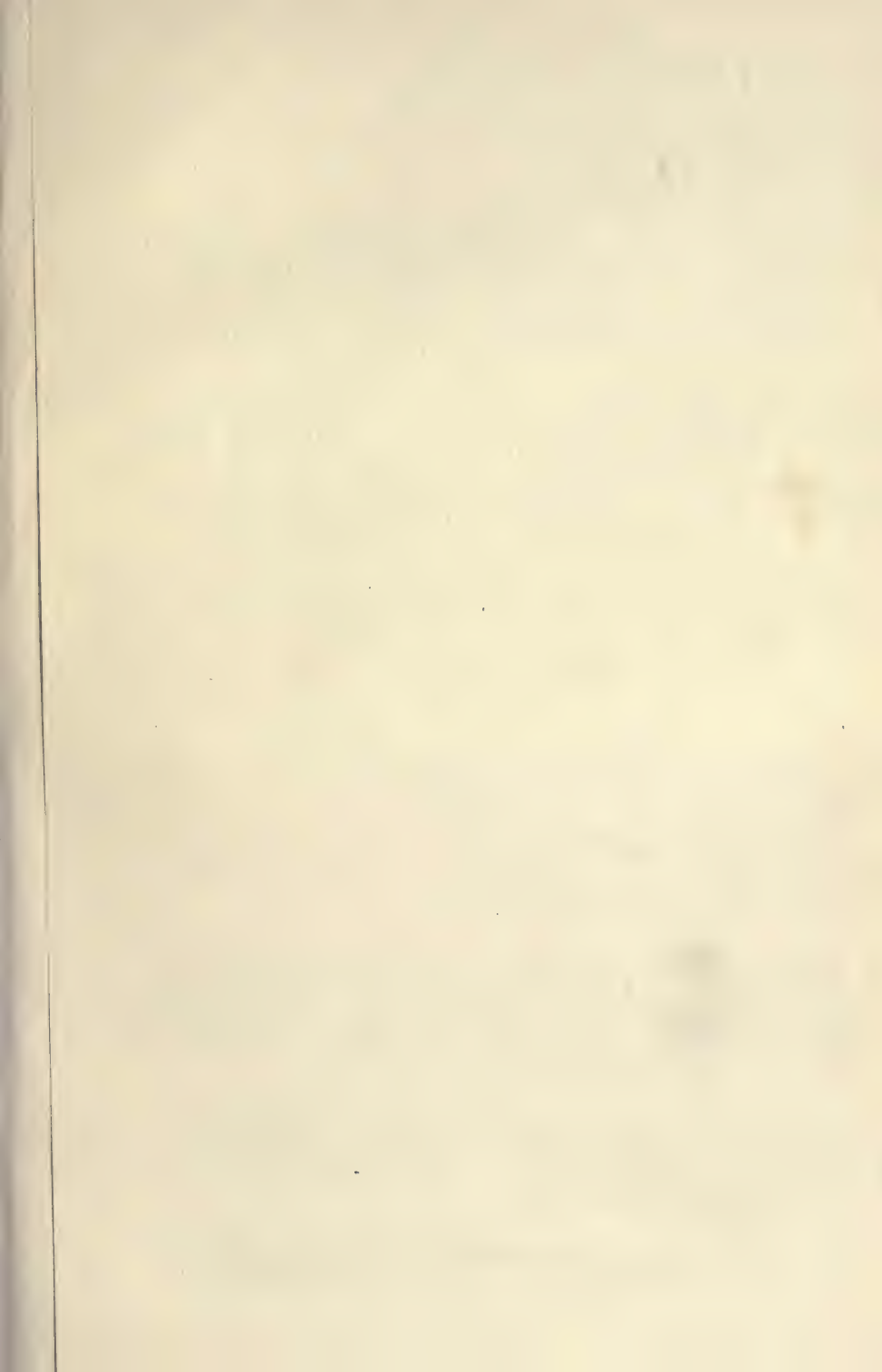
³³⁶ Pat., 32^o Henry VIII., p. 6, m. 10 [*Cal.*].

³³⁷ Claus., 15^o Car. II. [*Cal.*].

³³⁸ Add. MSS., 3,651.

³³⁹ Add. MSS., 5,681.

³⁴⁰ For information concerning the Medleys and for the pedigree I am indebted to the kindness of Lord Hawkesbury.



1728 by his son Thomas, who died four years later; the three eldest sons of the latter dying without issue the Otham and other Sussex estates passed to George Medley and on his death in 1796 to his niece Julia Annabella Evelyn and her husband Sir George Augustus William Shuckburgh, Bart.; their daughter and heir Julia Evelyn Medley Shuckburgh-Evelyn carried the estate by marriage to the Hon. Charles Cecil Cope Jenkinson, subsequently Earl of Liverpool. There being again no heir male, the Medley estates were divided amongst the three daughters of the Earl of Liverpool, the manor of Otham remaining in the hands of trustees for nearly 30 years, as appears from the court books in which for 1858 Rear-Admiral Octavius Vernon Harcourt, Egerton Vernon Harcourt, Esq., The Rt. Hon. Earl de la Warr, Rt. Hon. Thomas Earl of Zetland, Rev. Charles Grey Cotes and the Hon. Thomas Pryce Lloyd are lords of the manor; and in 1878 Egerton Vernon Harcourt, Esq. (surviving trustee for Lady Catherine Julia's marriage settlements), Hon. Ch. Wm. Wentworth Fitz-William, Cecil George Savile Foljambe, Esq., Ch. Cecil Cotes, Esq., Hy. Beilby Wm. Milner, Esq. (trustees for Lady Selina Charlotte), Hon. Hy. Wm. Berkeley Portman and Rev. Richard Hugh Cholmondeley (trustees for Lady Louisa Harriet) were lords. In 1879 the manor was sold to the Duke of Devonshire, in whose family it still remains. ✓

CHAPTER XIV.

MICHELHAM PRIORY was founded in 1229 by Gilbert de Aquila, third of that name and fourth lord of Pevensey of his family. The site chosen was at a bend of the river Cuckmere in the parish of Arlington, about half a mile from the boundary of Hailsham parish; the river was with little trouble converted into a broad moat, which afforded both protection and fish to the monastery. Above the priory on the west and north was the great forest of the Dicker, afterwards to perish in the furnace of the iron founder; on the east and south, separated only by the common, now known as Milton Hide, but then called "the Hake"—or "the land enclosed with a hedge"—was another great forest, of which the extensive remains still commemorate in their titles of "Abbot's Wood" and "Wilmington Wood" their former owners, the Abbot of the great house of Battle and the Prior of the alien monastery of Wilmington. Yet Michelham was not so out of the world as one would at first suppose, or even as it now is, for but a couple of hundred yards away ran what was then the main road from Lewes and from the Cuckmere valley to Battle and the ports of Hastings, Rye and Winchelsea, and, as we shall see, the priory had many visitors, whom to entertain seriously taxed their resources. Mr. Lower's suggestion that Michelham took its name from having been the residence of Gilbert de Aquila, the first lord of Pevensey, "who was called Gislebertus Magnus—Saxonice Michel," appears to have no foundation save the imagination of an ingenious etymologist.

As in the case of Otham I give a short ³⁴¹ pedigree of the founder's descent, though in this case the relationships are neither so puzzling nor so important; I believe, however, that no pedigree even so full as this, which is certainly not perfect, has been published.

³⁴¹ The authorities are: Rev. G. M. Cooper, in "S.A.C.," Vol. VI., the "Calendar of Documents in France illustrative of the History of Great Britain," and charters quoted in this volume.



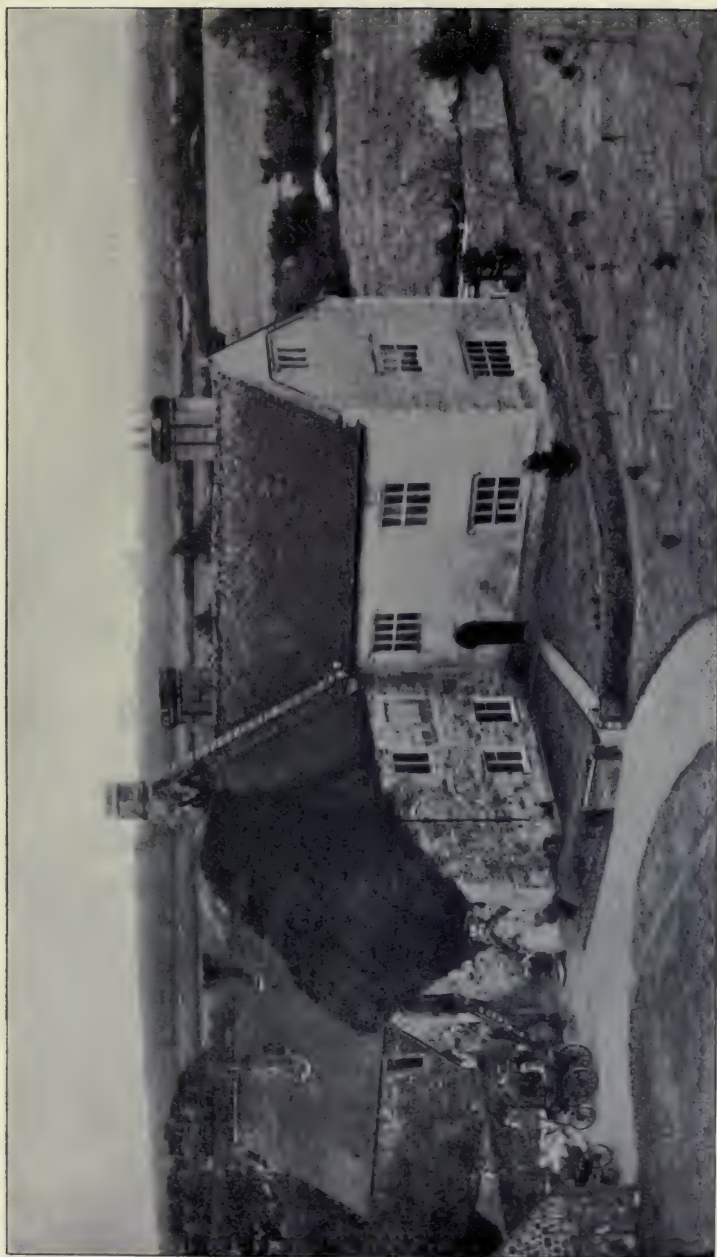
MICHELHAM PRIORY FROM THE NORTH-WEST.

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Photograph by

P. M. Johnston.

MICHELHAM PRIORY FROM THE NORTH-WEST.

Michelham, and to the prior and convent of canons serving God in that place; all my demesne of Micheleham and my park of Peverse with the bondmen, rents and other appurtenances; and 80 acres of marsh in Haylesham; and 20 acres of meadow in Wilendune; and pasture in the Diker and in the Broyle of Legton and other woods in Sussex for 60 head of cattle; and pannage for 100 pigs in my said woods; and timber for the building and repair of the said church and buildings and for fences, to be taken under the view of my foresters; and the advowsons of the churches of Legton and Haylesham. And because the memory of man is treacherous, in order that this my gift may be for ever valid and unshaken I have affixed my seal to this charter.

Witness: Simon de Echingham, Wm. de Munceux, Jordan de Saukeville, Robert de Alberville, Wm. Botevillayn, Helias de Gaugi, Walrand Maufe, John Gulafre, Robt. de Horstede, Robt. de Manekesye, Thos. de Bistenover, Ric. de la Gare, Remigius de Bosco, Simon Burgedse.

Of the donations thus made, part of the land at Michelham had been recovered by exchange from the Abbey of Bayham in 1219 by Gilbert, whose father had been a benefactor of that Abbey while at Otham; concerning the park of Pevensy Mr. Cooper says: "Vestiges of this ancient park may even yet be traced in the earthen embankment, about twenty five feet wide and six feet high, by which it was once enclosed and which still remains entire to a very considerable extent. Beginning at the Upper Dicker it runs westward to Wick Street, and after some interruption resumes its course to the south at Sessingham Bridge till it reaches Cane Heath; there turning eastward it skirts Milton Hide to the stream which separates the demesne from Tilehouse farm; this stream running north till it joins the Cuckmere forms the northern and north-west boundary as far as the priory." That this park with its abundance of game was sometimes an occasion of offence and a temptation to the Prior's neighbours may be seen from such entries as the following:

⁸⁴⁴ 1303, Pardon, on account of his services is Sectland, to Thomas son of Thomas Colpeper of Brenchesle for breaking the park of Michilham; 1309, ⁸⁴⁵ Order to Roger le Brabanzon to release Robert atte Pitte, John son of Richard le Fishere and Luke Hanecok who have been imprisoned for three years for trespass in the park of the prior of Michelham; 1313, ⁸⁴⁶ Pardon at the request of Queen Isabella

⁸⁴⁴ Pat., 31^o Edw. I., m. 2 [*Cal.*] ⁸⁴⁵ Claus., 2^o Edw. II., m. 13 [*Cal.*].

⁸⁴⁶ Pat., 7^o Edw. II., p. 1, m. 15 [*Cal.*].

granted, on account of his good service to Edward I. and to the King, to William de Merle, bastard, for breaking the parks of Wyrmyng-hurst, Uhirst and Michelham and hunting therein; and as late as 1695, ³⁴⁷Peter Piddlesden, John Geale and John Fuller are fined 5^s each as being "*communes venatores, anglice potchers.*"

In addition to these gifts the founder also gave the manor of Chinting, near Seaford, as appears from a charter of confirmation given by Henry III. in 1231:

³⁴⁸We have confirmed to the prior and canons of the church of the Holy Trinity at Michelham that they and their successors and their men of their manors of Michelham and Chiltinges, which they hold by the gift of Gilbert de Aquila, maybe for ever quit of shires and hundreds and sheriff's aid.

These rights were several times called in question; in 1262 the ³⁴⁹Hundred of Thille presented that the Prior of Michilham holds view of frank pledge at Heylisham, Chinting and Michelham, but by what title they know not; the Prior produced the above charter and paid 40^s to have his rights confirmed, Osbert Huse and Master Gilbert of Ferles, being his pledges. The next case is found on the Hundred Rolls:

Hundred of Foxbrewe:

The prior of Muchulham has withdrawn service of 25 tenants of his manor of Chyntyng for the last six years, to the annual loss to the hundred of 5^s.

Also the prior holds the assize of bread and beer in his manor of Chintyng, by what right is not known.

Both of these points are accordingly inquired into at the ³⁵⁰Eyre of 1278, when the Prior defends successfully the rights of his manors and denies that he holds the assize of bread and beer, but is convicted of so doing and fined. ³⁵¹In 1287 the Prior is again fined for enforcing illegal privileges, but whether his action was based on a claim of foreshore rights or on what I am not certain:

A man of Seford having been drowned in the sea, his body was cast up on the shore, and when news of his death was brought they

³⁴⁷ Court Rolls of Michelham Parkgate.

³⁴⁸ Dugdale's "*Monasticon.*"

³⁴⁹ Assize Roll, 912.

³⁵⁰ Assize Roll, 914; also "*Quo Warranto.*"

³⁵¹ Assize Roll, 924.

carried his body by the highway from Chyntyng to bury it at Seford, but the prior of Muchelhamme caused the body to be detained on the highway so that it could not be taken to burial: for which he is in mercy.

An account of the grants made to the Priory by others than the founder may be obtained from the "Inspeximus" of Edward II., printed in Dugdale, and ³⁵²the more important one of 1411 and also from the Patent Rolls and Inquisitions.

John de la Haye gave 50 acres of land in Arlington at la Knocke (Knock-Hatch). On the Hundred Rolls the Half Hundred of Middilton present that "the prior holds and has held for eight years the land of le Knocke of the gift of John de la Haye, which was held of the King in chief:" accordingly the Prior produces the royal confirmation and pays 20^s to have his claims allowed, John Peverel and Gerlon de Hoseye being his pledges.

William de Bracklesham, Dean of Chichester, gave his land of Spelterche in Arlington and the land which he held there of Richard Caperun and a meadow given him by Thomas de Bodyngton.

Robert de Blachington, clerk; tenement of Kelle, which he held of Wm. de Wrotham and Joan de Kelle his wife, with the woods, pastures, ponds, mills, fisheries, &c.

³⁵³Hugh Banderfer (or Baudefar); the land which he held in Brithelmeston which he bought of John de Berners.

³⁵⁴William son of Galfrid de Ditton; land in Ditton in Westham.

Thomas de Burton, knight, and Joan his wife; Isenhurst in Maghfeld with capital messuages, mills, &c.

Ralph de Manekesie; 20½ acres of land and half an acre of meadow on the east of the road from Perverse to Lewes, extending to the Brook of Wilendone.

Robert de Manekesie; land in Windebeche in ³⁵⁵Esshedowne forest which he held of the gift of Gilbert de Aquila, and yearly when required brushwood from the forest for the fencing of the said land.

³⁵² Pat., 13^o Henry IV., p. 2, m. 5.

³⁵³ In the "Customals of Battle Abbey" (c. 1310), John Baudefar is the largest tenant in Old Shoreham. The manor of Brighthelmstone—Michelham is in the neighbourhood of West Street, Brighton.

³⁵⁴ Galfrid and his children had been previously granted to the Abbey of Otham. About 1300, "Regugius atte Woode Walter de Horne Girardus de Pyggeferl Prior de Michelham et Simon de Horstede tenent de manerio de Geuyngton duo feoda in Burton Dyton et Sydenore" ("S.A.C.," Vol. XLIII.).

³⁵⁵ "Heseldon," in the earlier charter given by Dugdale.

³⁵⁶ Thomas de Wikenden; a field called Warefeld in Cuden, bounded by hedges, dykes and water.

³⁵⁷ William Russell and Lucy his wife; a tenement in Holewyche in Hertfeld.

Walter de Lecten and Gunnora his wife; Greggeslond in Cudenne and all that land of the gift of Agnes de Monte Acuto in the fee of Cudenne, quit of the court service which that land formerly paid to the court of the same Walter and Gunnora of Tiches.

Agnes de Monte Acuto; all her demesne in Hertfeld and Cuden.

William de Monte Acuto; the chapelry of Jovington with all appurtenances of the said Chantry.

For a notice of this family of Montacute and their probable descent from Alured "pincerna" of the Earl of Mortaine see article on Eastbourne Manor in "S.A.C.," Vol. XLIII. On a hill above Jevington Church is a field called "the Chapel Field," where the present rector, Rev. E. E. Crake, tells me there are considerable remains of what is supposed to have been a monastery dedicated to St. Lewinna; this I am inclined to think may have been the chapel or chantry granted to Michelham; no other mention of it, so far as I am aware, is to be found.

The next grant is four years later—1233:

Wm. Pedefor: 5 messuages in the Liberty of Pevensey, and 5 acres of land between Thorncrofte and Whitewelle [Thornwell in Arlington?], and one acre one rood of land in Pevenes viz. the acre near the land which the said William held formerly of Robt. de fonte (at Well) towards the east, and the rood near the farm of the said William to the south, and 60 acres of land which he held of Gilbert de Aquila in Wyllendon, which Robt. de Gardino once held.

With the exception of a ³⁵⁸ grant in 1280 of 50 acres in Horseye by Richard de Pageham, chancellor of Chichester, no further donations are recorded before the "Taxatio Ecclesiastica" of 1291:

³⁵⁶ "Warelands consists of 25 acres, chiefly meadow, at Kent-water, on the stream which there separates Kent from Sussex" ("S.A.C.," Vol. VI.). "Archæologia Cantiana," Vol. XXI., contains notices of the Wickenden family, who were resident at Cowden certainly till 1742, when "the roof of Cowden Church was ceiled with money found in custody of John Wickenden, who was relieved and maintained by this parish 40 years.

³⁵⁷ "Hollywish" farm. 1278, "the prior holds land late of Wm. Russell in Herfeude which was geldable to the Hundred at Scot and lot with the Hundred and should give its proportion when a common fine occurred, of which fine King Henry was seised, and the proportion is 2s 6d (Assize Roll, 918).

³⁵⁸ Pat., 9^o Edw. I., m. 20 [Cal.].

Prior of Michelham :

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
At Michilham	7	0	0	Kymindon (vel			
Chintinges	20	0	0	Gumiton).....	1	6	8
Marsh, with appurten-				Holewyk	3	0	0
ances	17	0	0	What Lucy Russell			
Isemhurst	2	0	0	receives from her			
From the land of la				tannery during her			
Corie	2	0	0	life	4	0	0
Egglesdon	2	0	0	From the monks of			
Brithelmeston	5	0	0	Bekham	16	13	4
Total.....				£80.			

Temporalities of the Prior of Michelham } £1 0 0
 from certain land in Cudenne

This shows an income equivalent in modern money to about £1,500. Of the various items, la Corie is "Little Curry," in Downash Manor, near Rickney; ³⁵⁹in 1353 "the water-course leading from Connemarsh to Landrich is blocked at the bridge of Courie, which is broken and the water-course filled with mud; the bridge should be repaired by the tenants of the prior of Michelham, John Hunte and others; so the prior is fined 40^d." Kymindon and Gumiton appear to be two of the numerous aliases of Jevington, the second being, perhaps, a misreading for Giuinton; the first is explained by the "Testa de Neville," in which Jevington is called Chiuinton and no doubt it was so written in the rough copy of this "Taxatio," but when the returns were all enrolled together whoever dictated this list pronounced the Ch hard, a mistake which he repeated in the next item, converting -wyche into -wyk. Egglesdon is conjectured by Mr. Cooper to be Heseldon, which we have seen was Ashdown Forest. It is not quite clear whether the Priory had a life interest in Lucy Russell's tannery or the reversion thereof, but her life must have been near its close if she was the Lucy, wife of William Russell, who gave land in Holwiche 62 years before this date.

During the reigns of Edward II. and III. considerable accessions were made to the property of the Priory, ³⁶⁰a mortmain license to hold 20 marcs of land not held of the King in chief being obtained in 1315, Nigel Payne

³⁵⁹ Assize Roll, 941.

³⁶⁰ Pat., 9^o Edw. II., p. 1, m. 29 [Cal.].

at the same time giving "5 acres of land in Erlington which he holds of Wm. de Cessyngham who holds of Francis de Aldeham who holds of the Barony of L'Aigle, and which are worth in all 10^d:" retaining a messuage and 25 acres in Hailsham, of which 6 acres are held of Thos. de Bosco and 19 of the Abbot of Grestein.³⁶¹ Next year the following grants were made:

³⁶³ John de Hydenye: 26 acres in Haylesham held of Nicholas le HwYTE who holds of the Priory of Michelham who hold of the Dean and Chapter of Chichester who hold of the Barony of Aquila and the Barony holds of the King: value 13^s.

Henry Paulyn: 5 acres there held of Priory of Michelham &c: value 2^s 6^d.

John son of John de Redemale de Beverington: 27 acres of land and 2 acres of meadow in Erlington held of Wm. Stace who holds of Francis de Aldeham who holds of the king: value 5^s 6^d.

Simon Lewyne: 32½ acres 1 rood of land and 3^s 6^d rent in Haylesham and Erlington; 13½ acres held of Fr. de Aldeham, value 23^d; 12 acres 1 rood and 3^s 6^d rent in Haylesham held of Priory of Michelham &c, value 6^s; 7 acres there held of Thomas Lytlington who holds of the Bishop of Chichester who holds of the King, value 9^d.

Nicholas de Holewich: 4 acres in Sefford held of Barony of Aquila; value 16^d.

Laurence de Chillye: 11^s 2¾^d rent in Manekesie held of Priory of Michelham &c.

John Dobbes: 4^s 11^d rent in Hailsham.

Subsequent donations are:

1322. ³⁶³ John atte See, 24 acres in Arlington: Simon Lewyne, 8 acres in Hailsham: Nich. le Longe, 12 acres in Hailsham: John de Dallyngeregge, 20 acres in Westham.

1323. ³⁶⁴ Andrew Maufe, 40 acres in Folkington and 10 acres in Hailsham.

1324. ³⁶⁵ Andrew Maufe, 100 acres in Westham, value 20^s.

1328. ³⁶⁶ John Dunsy: 20 acres in Horseye held of the Priory of Michelham, who hold &c; value 10^s: 15 acres in Manekesie held of the Priory by service of 18^d and half a pound of pepper, they hold with other lands of the Dean and Chapter by service of £10; value

³⁶¹ Inq. a.q.d., 8^o Edw. II., 52.

³⁶² Inq. a.q.d., 10^o Edw. II., 129, and Pat., 10^o Edw. II., p. 2, m. 24 [Cal.].

³⁶³ Pat., 16^o Edw. II., p. 1, m. 27 [Cal.].

³⁶⁴ Pat., 17^o Edw. II., p. 2, m. 10 [Cal.].

³⁶⁵ Pat., 18^o Edw. II., p. 2, m. 30 [Cal.].

³⁶⁶ Inq. p.m., 2^o Edw. III., p. 2, 124. On Priesthawes estates are two fields called "Great and Little Dunce," possibly the land thus given.

3^d 9^d :—there remains to said John a messuage and a carucate of land in Manekesie held of the Chancery of Chichester.

1331. ³⁶⁷ Philip de Endelenewyk : 16 acres in Westhamme held of Thos. atte Wode who holds them with other lands there and in Jevinton of Nicholaa de Aldehamme by service of one ³⁶⁸ small fee of Moreton, Nicholaa holds of Queen Philippa as of the Barony of Aquila ; worth 2^s 8^d and increase of 2^d and not more because the land is covered with brushwood : 12 acres in Haylesham held of the Priory &c ; worth 8^d and increase of 1^d : 1 acre of meadow in Wylyndon held of Isabella de Bohun who holds of Simon de Echingham who holds of the King as of the Barony of Aquila ; worth 6^d, not more because it is marshy : 8 acres in Hailesam held of the Priory by service of half a pound of incense paid to the Prior and 13^d paid to Queen Philippa at the Queen's Court of Pevenese on behalf of the Prior who holds of the Queen ; worth 21^d and increase of 3^d.

1334. ³⁶⁹ The same : 15 acres in Horseye : Wm. de Sessingham 8 acres in Arlington.

1340. ³⁷⁰ Ph. de Endlenewyk : a messuage and 79 acres 1 rood in Haylesham held of the Abbot of Battle who holds of the King in frankalmoign as of his manor of Alsiston ; worth 13^s 8½^d, 2 acres are sterile and woody.

The land thus given by the last charter was no doubt Coolbrook, which we have seen (p. 93) was held of Battle Abbey by the Prior of Michelham, who also held "land called le Lepelond" near Leap Cross, and :

³⁷¹ Certain lands called Hopperslond, bounded by the King's highway from Haylesham to Skokislove on the north-east, by the lands of John Cogger called Tunmannes of the demesne fee on the north-west, by the land of Julian Belsant of the fee of Wylyngdon to the south, and by the lands formerly of Thomas Steven held by the prior of the demesne fee to the west : he owes for rent at Easter 16^d and at Michaelmas 16^d, and for heriot when it occurs 13^s 4^d and relief when it occurs, and court service, and holds freely.

The "Nonae" returns of 1341 contains the following references :

Erlington :—The prior of Michelham has in the said parish a manor and 3 carucates of land from which the ninth part of the sheaves is worth per annum 2 marcs : Item the ninth of the fleeces of the said prior is worth per annum 16^d : Item the prior has no lambs in the parish.

³⁶⁷ Inq. p.m., 5^o Edw. III., p. 2, 136.

³⁶⁸ The question of the "parva feoda de Moreton" is a puzzling one and still remains unanswered at present.

³⁶⁹ *Inspeimus* : Pat., 13^o Henry IV., p. 2, m. 4.

³⁷⁰ Inq. p.m., 14 Edw. III., p. 2, 46.

³⁷¹ Aug. Off. Misc. Books, 57.

Sutton near Sefford : From the monks in the said parish, viz. : from the prior of Muchelham, 102^s 6^d.

Maghefeld :—The ninth sheaf from the farm of the prior of Muchelham is worth this year 10^s.

Brightelmestone : The ninth part of the sheaves and fleeces of the prior of Michelham is worth 30^s 4^d.

In 1377 the convent received an important grant, of which I give the inquisition, as affording valuable information concerning the landowners of the time :

³⁷² An Inquisition was held at Haylesham before Thomas de Illeston eschaetor, on the oath of Thomas atte Chambre Thomas Byngelegh John Jop John Basset Richard atte Fryht Richard Brokeshutt John atte Bech Robert atte Chambre Robert Broun Galfrid atte Brigge and William Nyewman who say that it is not to the detriment of the King or of any other that the King should allow Robert de Wenlyngburgh parson of the church of Hurstmonceux John Spicer parson of the church of Hertefeld Richard Stonhurst chaplain and Roger Gosselyn to grant and assign to the Prior and Convent of Mechelham : 80 acres of land and 39 acres of heath in Hilyngelegh of which 35 acres of land are held directly of the Abbey of Battle by service of 2^s 6^d and the Abbey hold in frankalmoign of the Honor of Aquila ; and 40 acres of land are held directly of the Abbey of Begham by service of 2^s and they hold in frankalmoign of Thomas de Sakevilles and he of the Honor ; and 42 acres of which 36 are held of Philip de Sessyngham for 3^s 3^d and he holds of Abbey of Begham for 1^d and they as above, and 6 acres are held of Johanna late the wife of Richard Hurst for 6^d and she holds of the Honor. And each acre of arable land of the said 80 acres is worth beyond reprises 2^d and each acre of heath $\frac{1}{2}$ ^d. And they say that 18 acres of land and 80 acres of heath in Hailesham and Erlyngton are held directly of the Priory of Lewes for 10^s and service every three weeks at the Prior's court of Langeneye with relief and heriot, and they hold of the Honor, and each acre is worth beyond reprises $\frac{1}{2}$ ^d. Also a messuage and 77 acres 3 roods of arable land and 12^d rent in Jevington are held of John Senyteler knight for $\frac{1}{4}$ ^d and an annual payment to sheriffs' aid of 21 $\frac{1}{4}$ ^d and Service in the Court of the said John at Gevynton every three weeks and he holds of the Honor ; and the said messuage is worth nothing beyond reprises and each acre of land is worth 2^d ; and 17 acres of land in Gevynton are held of John atte Doune Thomas Hendyman and John Aumbraye paying to said John 20^d to Thomas 15^d and to John Aumbraye 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ^d and they hold of John Senytelere. Also 20 acres of land and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres of meadow in Wylllyngdon are held of Lord de la Warre by 20^d and he holds of the King ; and 18 acres of land and 3 acres of meadow there are held of William Bartelot for 15^d and William holds of the lord of Burne ; and 6 acres of land there are held of William Morping for 2^d and he holds of the Honor for 6^d ; and each acre of the 16 acres of land in Gevynton is worth 2^d and each acre in Willyngdon 3^d and each acre of meadow

6^d. And another messuage and 100 acres of land 49 acres of wood 10 acres of heath and 8^d rent in Waldern are held of John Brocas as of the manor of Ryp for 5^s and he holds of the Honor: and the messuage is worth nothing beyond reprises and each acre of land 2^d and each of wood 1^d and of heath $\frac{1}{2}$ ^d. And a messuage and 74 acres of land in Westham of which 14 acres are marsh and of these 14, 7 are held directly of the Honor for 6^s 8^d and the remaining 7 of Thomas atte Mille for 3^s and he holds of the Priory of Michelham for 2^s and they in frankalmoign of the Honor: the messuage is worth nothing, each acre of marsh 8^d. Also 8 acres of land in Westham are held of Amice Clavyrige for 3^s and she holds of the Honor, and 5 acres there are held of the heirs of John Hunt for 20^d and they hold of the lord of ³⁷⁸Eldecourt; and each acre is worth 1^d. And 20 acres are held directly of William Alman for 5^s 3^d and he holds of the Honor; and each acre is worth 1^d. And 27 acres, besides a messuage and £4. 9. 3 rent of assize, there are held directly of the Priory of Michelham for 2^s 4^d and they hold in frankalmoign of the Honor, and each acre is worth 1^d. And all these 3 messuages lands &c in the villis of Gevynton Wyllyngdon Waldern and Westham Alice Clayvrige holds for the term of her life. Also it will be to the detriment of none to allow the grant of 73 acres of land 12 acres of meadow pasture for 100 sheep and 21^s of rent in Wyllingdon of which each acre of land is worth 1^d each of meadow 6^d the pasture for 100 sheep 3^s: and all these Philip de Sessingham holds for the term of his life with reversion to the said Robert John Richard and Roger after his death, and remainder to said Prior and Convent and their successors; of which one acre of land is held directly of the manor of Fokynton for 4^d and the manor holds of the Honor; and 12 acres are held of Thomas de Rademylde for 10^s and he holds of the Priory of Michelham for one pound of corn. And of William de Hedenye are held 6 acres for 20^d, and of Philip Mestede knight 4 acres for 6^d, and of Richard Hereward 2 acres for 9^d, and of Robert Jop 1 acre for 6^d, and they hold of the Honor. And 3 acres of land and 3 acres of meadow are held of the Dean and Chapter of Chichester for 3^s 6^d and the rest of the land of the Priory of Michelham for 10^d and the Priory in frankalmoign of the Honor. And they say that the said Robert de Wenlyngburgh John Spicer and Richard Stonhurst are chaplains and have no other lands, but Roger Gosselyn has a messuage and a carucate of land of a different tenure which suffice for the services due both for the said lands which he is granting and for other lands which he retains.

The list of grants is brought to a conclusion by the following:

1395. ³⁷⁴At request of Richard E. of Arundel the King gives the Prior of Michelham leave to hold a further 10 mares of land. In full satisfaction of which the following gifts are granted:

Wm. Battersford Roger Gosselyn and Ric. Spenser citizen and tailor of London: 8 messuages 6 tofts, 264 acres of land, 2^s 9^d rent, pasture

³⁷³ Old Court manor in Herstmonceux.

³⁷⁴ Inq. p.m., 15^o Ric. II., p. 2, 168; and Pat., 16 Ric. II., p. 2, m. 25 [Cal.].

for 60 beasts from Easter to Michaelmas, and pasture for 80 sheep, with appurtenances in Sefford and Sutton near Sefford; and John Cartere, Will. Cartere and Tho^s Thunder their serfs.

John Spicer and the said Roger: 1 messuage, 60 acres 3 roods of land, 63 acres of brushwood, and 6^s rent in Haylesham Hellingly Erlyngton and Brighthelmeston.

The same John and Roger: 2 messuages, 140 acres of land, 64 acres brushwood, 4^{li} 3^s 10^d rent, pasture for 400 sheep, in Westhamme and Jevyngton, which Alice Clavrigge holds for life of said John and Roger and which on the death of the said Alice should revert to the said John and Roger.

³⁷⁵ An inquisition made in 1283—Wm. Maufe, Robt. de Passelegh, John de Mounceus and John de Iweregge being amongst the jurors—showed that “the prior of Michelham has by grant of Gilbert de Aquila, formerly Baron of the Honor of Aquila, and ought to have, reasonable provision of timber for the repair and necessary restorations (*de novo faciendas*—the exact equivalent of “restoration” as applied at the present time to ancient buildings) of his buildings in the manor of Michelham, and wood for fencing and firewood, &c. (as in the charter), but now Joan, who was the wife of Robert de Caunvill, prevents him from exercising his privileges.” Accordingly the Prior brings an ³⁷⁶ action against Joan and recovers his rights. A similar case is shown in the following undated petition, apparently of Edward II.’s time:

³⁷⁷ To our lord the King sheweth the prior and the poor convent of Michelham that whereas they ought to have sufficient livery of timber for their church and buildings of Michelham and housbote and heybote in the woods which belonged to Gilberd formerly lord of the Honor of the Egle by charter of the said Gilberd, which the King confirmed,—when they brought a writ of Chancery to Master John de Redeswelle, warden of the woods and of other lands late of the Queen, he would not give them livery for any writ of Chancery; for which they pray a remedy.

Endorsed: Let a suit be brought by writ to settle the matter.

³⁷⁸ On the 16th June, 1283, the Priory received a visit from the Archbishop of Canterbury, who had spent the previous day at Battle, and left next day for Bexhill and Battle, returning on the 18th to Michelham apparently, and leaving again next day for Rochester. While he

³⁷⁵ Inq. p.m., 22^o Edw. I., 144.

³⁷⁶ Coram Rege, 23^o Edw. I., Trin., 26.

³⁷⁷ Ancient Petitions, 1331.

³⁷⁸ Peckham Register.

was at Michelham John de Kyrkeby, Bishop-elect of Rochester, came to him and resigned his claims to the bishopric—the Archbishop having refused him consecration as a notorious pluralist—he, however, subsequently obtained the richer see of Ely. Apparently the state of the Priory was not altogether satisfactory, as the Archbishop afterwards sent a letter to the Archdeacon of Lewes empowering him to levy fines of 40^s imposed at the late visitation on the convents of Michelham and Hastings for non-residence and other causes.

³⁷⁹ Nearly twenty years later, September 14th, 1302, Michelham was honoured, and probably inconvenienced, by the presence of royalty, Edward I. spending the night at the Priory on his way from Lewes to Battle; unfortunately the portion of the household account relating to this part of his journey is lost.

In 1317 ³⁸⁰“Robert Henry who served the late king is sent to the prior and convent of Michelham to receive his maintenance.” This simple and economical method of rewarding their old retainers by billeting them on some monastery was much in favour with the kings of this time, effective “old age pensions” being obtained at the cost of a few lines on a piece of parchment and a little sealing-wax, without even bringing a frown to the placid brow of the Chancellor of the Exchequer; it was not, however, so popular with the monasteries, and in this case the Prior vigorously protested and was therefore ³⁸¹summoned before the court to explain why he had not admitted Robert Henry to a corrody at the King’s command, to which he replied that he held in frankalmoign, and produced his charters. Though the result of the suit is not stated it is evident, from the fact that in 1327:

³⁸² William Alvered, usher of the King’s kitchen, who has long served the King, is sent to the prior and convent of Michelham to receive the same allowance as John de Urlesbam used to receive in their house in his lifetime.

³⁷⁹ “S.A.C.,” Vol. II.

³⁸⁰ Claus., 10^o Edw. II., 5 D. [*Cal.*].

³⁸¹ Coram Rege, 11^o Edw. II., Easter.

³⁸² Claus., 1^o Edw. III., m. 11 D. [*Cal.*].

Up to this time the only church held by the Priory was that of Laughton—the advowson of Hailsham having been surrendered to Bayham Abbey—but in 1365 negotiations were apparently entered into for the church of Ripe,³⁸³ as in that year the Priory of Lewes received royal license to grant the advowson of the church of Ripe, alias Egginton, to the Priory of Michelham. This, however, appears to have fallen through, as the Priory of Lewes continued to be patrons of that living and it is not again mentioned in connection with Michelham.

In 1398 the Priory of Michelham having fallen upon evil days, their energetic head, John Leem, made a successful appeal to the new Bishop of Chichester for assistance and obtained his leave to appropriate the churches of Alfriston and Fletching, of which the former cannot have been long built, judging from the architectural features:

1398. ³⁸⁴Robert (Read) Bishop of Chichester To all men &c. . . . The petition of our beloved in Christ John Leem prior and the convent of Michelham lately laid before us declares that Several large and valuable houses and buildings of the said priory and of other places belonging to the priory, which the labour of past generations had erected are so ruinous and almost falling—some indeed have almost entirely fallen down—so that assistance must be obtained from other sources for their restoration which they have been long striving to effect and do daily strive and will strive to the best of their power, and without assistance from outside they cannot undertake the expensive and onerous work of restoring and rebuilding and keeping in repair. Moreover through inundations of the sea which has overwhelmed much arable and productive land and meadows and pasture and other fertile lands of the said priory from which a large part of their income was derived but from which they cannot now obtain any profit nor will be able to obtain such in the future. And by various losses and diminutions of the property rents and issues late belonging to the priory occurring through no fault of their own but through the malice of the present generation and also the malice of the Religious themselves. There will be moreover a heavy and continual expense in protecting the sea shore and the lands of the monks themselves in the neighbourhood of the sea. And by reason of these and other insupportable demands thus heaped upon them the means of the priory are insufficient, their sources of income being thus diminished; and this income is not sufficient for reasonable provision for themselves and their servants and bondsmen and for the exercise of hospitality in the priory, which is situated near the King's highway and public

³⁸³ Pat., 39^o Edw. III., p. 1, m. 28 [*Cal.*].

³⁸⁴ Shirburn Register: "Appropriations of Churches."

road so that the nobles of the kingdom and other travellers frequently turn aside there, and for the support of all their other burdens, nor will it be possible to continue in future without detriment to the service of God.

Wherefore he grants them the churches of Alfriston and Fletching.

³⁸⁵ Confirmation of this grant was obtained from King Richard II., on payment of the large sum of £40, but that king being deposed his ³⁸⁶ successor charged another £10 for a similar act of condescension, after which :

³⁸⁷ Robert by the Grace of God bishop of Chichester &c: since that King Henry of his special grace has licenced the convent of Michelham to appropriate the parish churches of Alfricheston and Flecchyng—provided that the vicarages thereof be sufficiently endowed and that reasonable sums be distributed every year amongst the poor parishioners of the said churches; therefore we have granted and by our power as ordinary have appropriated to them the said churches with all their rights and appurtenances, saving a vicarage in the church of Flecchyng appointed of old time and fitting provision ordained therefor by us, and saving a certain portion of the rectory and demesne of the church of Alfriston and a portion of the fruits and issues thereof for the manse and fitting maintenance of the vicar; so that as soon as the present rectors shall resign or be canonically removed from their churches the monks may occupy the livings either in their own persons or by deputy. . . . And as the sum so given to the poor was not specified, we have decided that, as the church of Alfriston is at present in the hands of Dom. William Everle and that of Flecching in the hands of Dom. John Crowche, rectors, when they become vacant the priory on entering into possession shall yearly at Christmas cause to be truly and faithfully distributed to the most needy of the poor parishioners for their support and maintenance the sum of 30^s in money or corn, 15^s to each parish.

Given at Chichester 20 Nov. 1399.

Finally, the royal, episcopal and papal consents having been obtained and the advowsons acquired from Roger Gosselyn, Thomas Enlenewk, Richard Cessyngham and ³⁸⁸ Richard Parker, the Prior, fearing that trouble may arise through these latter not having had a special mortmain license, pays the King a further £10 for an additional ³⁸⁹ confirmation. The Priory exercised their

³⁸⁵ Pat. 21^o Ric. II., m. 32 [*Cal.*].

³⁸⁶ Pat., 1^o Henry IV., m. 11 [*Cal.*].

³⁸⁷ Rede Register, p. 63.

³⁸⁸ Feet of Fines, Mich., 19^o Ric. II.; Ric. Parker compounded with Sir Ph. Seyntcler and Joan his wife for the advowsons of Alfryshton and Flecchyng [*Lansdowne MSS.*, 307].

³⁸⁹ Pat., 3^o Henry IV., p. 1, m. 16.

new privileges for the first time on ³⁹⁰Nov. 20th, 1400, when John Carlton was admitted on their presentation to the vicarage of Alfriston. ³⁹¹In the visitation of Pevensey Deanery in 1478 Dom. Thomas Walain (?) was vicar of Alfriston and there is a badly written entry about Brother Henry Warreyne "celebrans divina ibidem," apparently to the effect that he is to return to his convent before Michaelmas. William Woode, vicar there c. 1515, was a canon of Michelham (ordained acolyte in 1491 and priest in 1494 with William Gravesend, of the same house), as was his successor, Richard Upton (acolyte in 1488 and priest 1490), and his successor in 1523, Mathew Blatchington (priest in 1501), was sacrist at Michelham in 1521. Horsfield, in his "History of Sussex," gives a drawing of an emblematic figure of the Trinity formerly in one of the windows of Alfriston Church, and this is exactly similar to the pattern on certain tiles lately found at Michelham and, in a less elaborate form, is carved on one of the bosses in the vaulted room there.

William de Worcestre, in his "Itinerary" of 1490, mentions a "church of a priory of canons regular of Mochylham in Sussex, 5 miles from Lewes, founded by William de Sancto Claro, the Norman." As it is 12 miles from Lewes and was not founded by William St. Clare his notice can scarcely be called adequate or accurate and may rank with ³⁹²Gilpin's enthusiasm over Penshurst, which he describes as lying between Ashburnham and Battle, whereas the parish is Penhurst and the house which he describes and evidently wishes us to believe that he admired is not even in the same county! But this by the way.

This completes our survey of what may be termed the conventual history of Michelham; the next chapter will deal with the Priors and their brethren, and the last with the dissolution and subsequent history.

³⁹⁰ Rede Register.

³⁹¹ Storey Register.

³⁹² "Observations on the Coast of Hampshire, Sussex and Kent."

CHAPTER XV.

1229. ROGER appears to have been the first prior of Michelham from the following entry on the Close Roll of 1335 :

³⁹³To William de Northo, eschaetor: Order not to intermeddle further with a third part of the manor of Northese, restoring the issues thereof to the prior and convent of the church of the Holy Trinity at Muchelham, as lately at the prosecution of the prior of that church showing that he holds that third part by charter of Isabella lady of Aquila, late the wife of Gilbert de Aquila, of John de Warennia, Earl of Surrey, kinsman and heir of Isabella, in chief; and the prior and his predecessors had held of the Earl and his predecessors and not of the King. The eschaetor had taken it into the King's hands pretending that William de Shelvestrod late prior of that place had held the said third part at his death of the King in chief. The prior beseeching an enquiry, the king has found; that Isabella who held of William then Earl Warenne gave it to one Roger then prior of Holy Trinity Muchelham and to the canons to hold in frankalmoign of her and her heirs; wherefor they held it of her during her life and then of William Earl Warenne, Isabella's brother and heir; after his death Peter, then prior of Muchelham, and the canons held of John Earl Warenne son and heir of William; afterwards William, the last prior of that place held it at the time of his death of John now Earl Warenne, kinsman and heir of the said John, in frankalmoign; and that they never held the said third part of the King in chief.

As William de Warenne died in 1239 and Isabella predeceased him it is unlikely that the date of the gift was later than 1235, which renders it probable that Roger, to whom the gift was made, was the first Prior.

1239. PETER seems to have been Prior when John de Warenne succeeded to the earldom. He appears in the following undated deed:

³⁹⁴Robert de Mankseye gives to Battle Abbey land near the house that was Simon de Munceaut's in Battle; Witness, Dom. Henry, prior of Cumbwelle, Dom. Peter prior of Michilham, Thos. de Bavingelehamme, Berenger Tyrel, Stephen de Northya, Ralph Frankelain, Benedict de Berga.

³⁹⁵In 1248 the Sheriff is ordered to distrain the goods of the Prior of Michelham and Robert le Hus for a debt of 40^s which ought to have been paid in the Octaves of

³⁹³ Claus., 9^o Edw. III., m. 35 [*Cal.*]. ³⁹⁴ Thorpe's "Battle Abbey Charters."

³⁹⁵ Madox, "History of the Exchequer."



E. Dutton.

THE VAULTED ROOM, MICHELHAM.

CHAPTER XV.

1234. *ROGER* appears to have been the first prior of Michelham from the following entry on the Close Roll of 1235:

⁷⁷⁶ To William de Northo, eschaetor: Order not to intermeddle further with a third part of the manor of Northese, restoring the same thereof to the prior and convent of the church of the Holy Trinity of Michelham, as lately at the prosecution of the prior of that church showing that he holds that third part by charter of Isabella lady of Aquila, late the wife of Gilbert de Aquila, of John de Warenne, Earl of Surrey, Lincoln and heir of Isabella, in chief; and the prior and his predecessors had held of the Earl and his predecessors and not of the King. The eschaetor had taken it into the King's hands pretending that William de Shelvestrod late prior of that place had held the said third part at his death of the King in chief. The prior beseeching an enquiry, the King has found; that Isabella who held of William then Earl Warenne gave it to one Roger then prior of Holy Trinity Michelham and to the canons to hold in frankalmoign of her and her heirs; whereas they hold it of her during her life and then of William Earl Warenne, Isabella's brother and heir; after his death from the prior of Michelham, and the canons hold of John Earl Warenne and late of William, afterwards William, the last prior of that church; and it is the gift of his death of John Earl Warenne Lincoln and heir of the said John de Frankalmoign; and that the prior had the said third part of the King in chief.

As William de Warenne died in 1230 and Isabella predeceased him it is unlikely that the date of the gift was later than 1235, which renders it probable that Roger, to whom the gift was made, was the first Prior.

1239. *PETER* seems to have been Prior when John de Warenne succeeded to the earldom. He appears in the following undated deed:

⁷⁷⁷ Robert de Mankseye gives to Battle Abbey land near the house that was Simon de Manceau's in Battle; Witnes, Dom. Henry, prior of Cambwell, Dom. Peter prior of Michilham, Thos. de Bavingeham, Berenger Tyrel, Stephen de Northys, Ralph Frankelain, Benedier de Barga.

⁷⁷⁸ In 1248 the Sheriff is ordered to distrain the goods of the Prior of Michelham and Robert le Hus for a debt of 20^s which ought to have been paid in the Octaves of

⁷⁷⁶ *Close Roll*, m. 32 [Cal]. ⁷⁷⁷ Thorpe's "Battle Abbey Charters,"
⁷⁷⁸ Major, "History of the Exchequer."



Photograph by

THE VAULTED ROOM, MICHELHAM.

E. Unwin.



SS. Peter and Paul to Robert le Fuleham, clerk of the constabulary of the King's Exchequer.

c. 1260. ROGER II. ³⁹⁶ The Lewes Chartulary mentions an exchange of one rood of land in Bristhelmston made between Roger, Prior of Michelham, and William (de Foville, 1257-1268), Prior of Lewes; witnessed by Amfrid de Feryng, Simon de Herbeting and others. That whoever was Prior in 1260 was the immediate successor of Peter is shown by the Assize Roll of that date:

³⁹⁷ An assize was held to discover whether the Prior of Michelham had diverted a watercourse in Erlington to the damage of Simon de Hemstede, free tenant, who complains that by the diversion of a certain watercourse about 10 acres of his land are submerged: complainant also says that through the withdrawal of the water by that diversion he loses the use of his mill there sometimes for four days at other times for five days. The prior did not appear but one Adam his canon came and answered for him that if any diversion had been made it was not by him but by one Peter his predecessor. Judgement, that the said diverted course be restored to its former state at the Prior's cost, under the view of the Jury. The Prior in mercy: pardoned by the Justices: and Simon remits his damages to value of 25^s.

On the same roll is a presentment that "Katherine Cranyld was found killed by unknown malefactors in the Borough of the Prior of Michelham." On the meaning of the term Borough (Latin, *Borgha*) Mr. Hudson says: ³⁹⁸ "An original 'borgh' seems to have been a settlement (hamlet, detached homestead, group of tenants of some outside lord) which was held responsible as a 'tithing' and was summoned on inquests as a 'villata,' and yet was not a distinct ecclesiastical parish, not a normal village. It was . . . a detached tithing of a vill utilised for legal purposes as though itself a vill." This is borne out by a ³⁹⁹ presentment of the Hundred of Thille in 1278 that "Henry le Pipere of Wyncheles killed Roger Wygge of Haylesham; no Englishry was presented, so the hundred is fined: and the vills of

³⁹⁶ "S.A.C.," Vol. III.

³⁹⁷ Assize Roll, 912.

³⁹⁸ Article on Eastbourne Manor in "S.A.C.," Vol. XLII., by Rev. W. Hudson, F.S.A.

³⁹⁹ Assize Roll, 921.

Heylesham and Michelham did not come to the inquest, so they are in mercy." Again, we have seen that in the sixteenth century the "Borough" and "Half-Hundred" of Hailsham were synonymous, and a ⁴⁰⁰deed of 1567 speaks of the "Manor and Hundred of Michelham Parkgate," so that the "Prior of Michelham's Borough" was evidently equivalent to the Manor of Michelham.

1273. WILLIAM. The foundation charter of the Hospital of St. Katherine by the Tower of London given by Queen Eleanor, 5th July, 1273, was witnessed by Dom. William, then Prior of Michelham.⁴⁰¹

1278. ⁴⁰²NICHOLAS, Prior of Michelham, has withdrawn the service due to the Sheriff's Court for Chinting; he produces his charters and is discharged. At the same time the Hundred of Langgebryg say:

Thomas Alin of Michelham was in the parish of Fokenton and there took a deer; so he was arrested: afterwards it is shown that Thomas is not to be found: so he is outlawed: he has no realisable chattels: he was of the household of the Prior of Michelham: so the prior is in mercy.

⁴⁰³In 1285 protection for two years is granted to the Prior of Michelham going beyond seas. It would be interesting to know where he was going and why; probably to the Court of Rome, possibly to secure papal intervention in the dispute between his house and Bayham over the church of Hailsham.

⁴⁰⁴This same year Brother Richard de Boueneye, of Micheleham, was ordained acolyte in the Archbishop's chapel of South Malling, and next year Brother Roger, of Michelham, was there ordained sub-deacon.

1287. ROGER III. For this name we are indebted to Simon de Hemstede and his watercourse which had been the cause of a dispute with a Prior of 30 years earlier.
⁴⁰⁵"Simon de Hemstede, who brought a writ against

⁴⁰⁰ Duchy of Lanc. Pleas, Vol. LXXVII., p. 10.

⁴⁰¹ Dugdale, "Monasticon."

⁴⁰² Assize Roll, 921.

⁴⁰³ Pat., 13^o Edw. I., m. 29 [Cal.].

⁴⁰⁴ Peckham Register.

⁴⁰⁵ Assize Roll, 928.

Roger prior of Michelham that he should allow him to divert a stream in Erlyngton back into its original and proper course, did not prosecute; so he and his pledges, William de Gisyllum of Legton and William de la Felde of Wylyndon, are in mercy." There is in the Record Office an undated petition by this Prior:

⁴⁰⁶To our lord the King and to his council showeth Brother Roger, prior of Michelham, that the prior Roger his third predecessor purchased of Sir John de la Haye, father of the present Sir John, fifty acres of land with appurtenances in the parish of Erlington for himself and his successors, which land belonged to the said John by escheat; and now there has been a presentment made before the Justices in Eyre in the county of Sussex that the same land was held by John de la Haye, their Feoffer, of the king in chief, for which reason the same Justices have seized the land into the king's hand and have ejected the prior from it so that he can not approach the land nor have any profit of it; for the which the Prior prayeth our lord the king that for the welfare of his soul and the souls of his ancestors he will grant him a remedy, for the Prior and his brethren are his chaplains and he himself is their [patron].⁴⁰⁷

Endorsed: Let a letter be sent to the Justices in Eyre that they write to the king the truth about the seizure.

The Priors of Michelham owning a considerable extent of land on the sea coast were often associated with other local commissioners for the protection of the low-lying lands of Pevensey Bay; and in 1290 a ⁴⁰⁸complaint was made by the leading landowners of Pevensey marsh that Luke de la Gare, the Prior of Michelham, Wm. le Doune, John de Faukeham, Ric. de Veteri Monasterio and Simon le Wyne contrary to the King's ordinance had begun to make a bank across the haven of Pevenesel and a sluice, whereby the freshwater will be prevented from following its course through the marsh to the sea by the said haven, to the great danger of the inhabitants round about and the frequent inundation of their lands; J. de Lasey and Wm. de Echingham are therefore empowered to enquire into the matter and if necessary to remove the bank and sluice.

⁴⁰⁶ Ancient Petitions, 14,688.

⁴⁰⁷ This last word I could not decipher, but it is probably something equivalent to "patron."

⁴⁰⁸ Pat., 18° Edw. I., m. 16D [Cal.].

⁴⁰⁹ In 1294 the clergy, "having granted the king a moiety of their benefices and goods according to the taxation last made for a tenth for the Holy Land," the Prior of Muchelham, amongst others, receives protection for his goods for one year. ⁴¹⁰ In 1297 the Prior of Michelham, being returned as holding lands or rents to the amount of £20 or upwards, was one of those summoned to perform military service in parts beyond seas and had therefore to join the muster at London with such horses and arms as he owed on the Sunday after the octaves of St. John Baptist, July 7th. ⁴¹¹ Edward II. in 1310, needing provisions for his Scotch expedition, sent a "request" to all monasteries, including Michelham, for a "loan" of victuals, though the Prior had already contributed towards the war once at least—a contribution which was not altogether unrewarded, as appears from the fact that in 1311 ⁴¹² Simon de Hydenye, bailiff of the Liberty of the Port of Pevenese, John de Glynleye, John Russell, baker, of Pevenese, and others, collectors of tallage, were attached by the Prior for distraining his goods in Haylesham, Wylyndon and Westhamme, which are not in his Liberty; and moreover the Prior had protection from the late King, having subscribed towards the expenses of the Scotch war.

An entry on the Patent Roll of 1316 is probably connected with the Prior's duties as surveyor of Pevensey marshes. Though not of much importance to our subject, I give it for the list of names that it contains:

⁴¹³ Pardon of outlawry to Henry son of Gervase Alard, Simon Curteys, Robert de Cralle, Wm. Alman, Ric. son of Wm. de ⁴¹⁴ Eldechirche, Wm. Jaudelet, Thos. son of Juliana de Hanekeham, J. Willard of la Doune, Wm. Crop, Nich. Bygg of Hanekeham, J. Melyn, Gervase de Foulride, Rt. Wyberd, Simon Blowere, Thos. Pye, Walter Crop, Simon atte Mersh, Wm. Pryg, Hugh Lewere, J. Senderwode, Jas. de Asshemerton, Benenger de Northtoun, Giles atte Stile and Ric. de Stokes for nonappearance before the King's Bench to answer the prior

⁴⁰⁹ Pat., 22^o Edw. I., m. 8 [*Cal.*].

⁴¹⁰ Palgrave, "Parliamentary Writs."

⁴¹¹ Claus., 3^o Edw. II., m. 5 D.

⁴¹² Coram Rege., Hil., 5^o Edw. II.

⁴¹³ Pat., 10^o Edw. II., p. 1, m. 38 [*Cal.*].

⁴¹⁴ Doubtless the Ric. de Veteri Monasterio mentioned above.

of Michelham and Thos. de Angemere touching a trespass committed against them, provided they surrender themselves forthwith at the prison of Peveseye.

c. 1322-1334. WILLIAM DE SHELVESTRODE. The family of Shelvestrode or Shovelstrode, who bore for arms *erm.* a cross fuzilly, took their name from a manor in East Grinstead. ⁴¹⁵In the Bodleian is a "Littera Fraternitatis concessa Priori de Michelham" of about 1322, so mutilated that it is only just possible to make out that it was addressed by John, Prior of Thonebregg (St. Mary Magdelene's, Tunbridge), to William de Sceluesstrod, on what subject it is impossible to say. As we have seen that he was "late prior" in 1335, doubtless one of his last acts was the ⁴¹⁶payment on behalf of his convent of 20^s towards the marriage portion of the King's sister Eleanor.

⁴¹⁷His successor was associated in 1335 with William de Sessyngham and John Dalynrigg on a commission to enquire concerning any persons causing defects in the manors, members and parks of the Honor of Aigle held by Queen Philippa; and five years later the ⁴¹⁸Prior of Michelham was one of the four assessors for Sussex of the ninth of lambs, sheaves and fleeces granted to the King (which produced the valuable "Nonae" returns), his associates being the Chancellor, Earl of Arundel and Edward Seint Johan. It is almost a surprise to find the Prior of such a minor house as Michelham is such remarkably select company; one would have expected his neighbours of Battle or Lewes to have been rather chosen, and it is to be regretted that his name is not known.

⁴¹⁹In 1347 the Prior was ordered to send a sack of wool to the King in London.

⁴²⁰In 1350 William Garet, canon of Muchelham, received an indulgence to choose a confessor.

⁴¹⁵ Kent Rolls, 6.

⁴¹⁶ Claus., 7^o Edw. III., p. 1, m. 22 D [Rymer's "Foedera"].

⁴¹⁷ Pat., 9^o Edw. III., p. 2, m. 27 D [Cal.].

⁴¹⁸ Pat., 14^o Edw. III., m. 42 [Cal.].

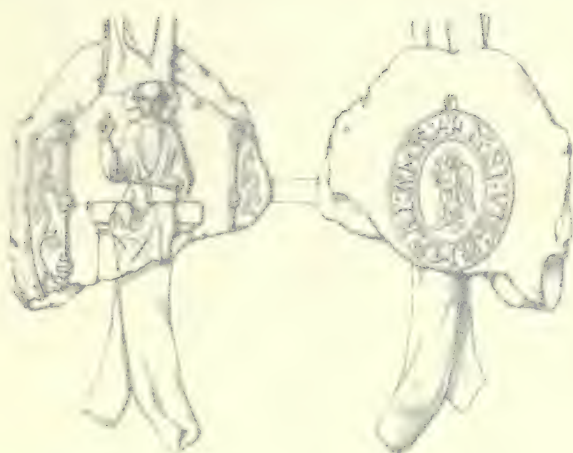
⁴¹⁹ Rymer, "Foedera."

⁴²⁰ "Papal Letters," Vol. III.

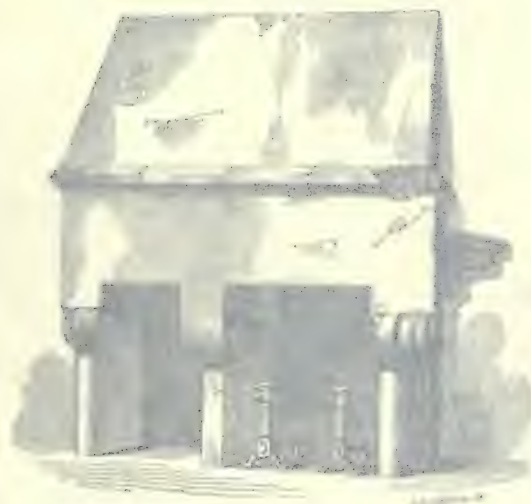
⁴²¹ The Assize Roll of 1353 affords two entries of interest, the first giving valuable information as to the constitution of the Priory: "The Prior of Michelham holds of the Lady Queen by service of finding 13 canons to celebrate divine rites for the soul of Gilbert de Aquila and the souls of his ancestors and his heirs for ever; and of these canons eight are now wanting, so he is fined 40^s." The income of the house was probably insufficient for the support of the full number, as in none of the later visitations are there more than ten canons, but that there should be only five speaks but poorly for the head of the convent and can hardly be explained by lack of income, even when diminished by such extortion as the following:

William Gates, bailiff of the Queen's Liberty, desiring to make some profit out of the prior of Michelham, in August 24^o Edward III caused certain of the King's servants of his marshalsea to come to the prior, and told him that he would make the said servants oppress him in various ways unless he gave him a good yearly pension. And the Prior fearing the malice of the said William, because he was an officer of the Lady Queen, and threatened him so cruelly that it seemed to him that the destruction of his house lay evidently within the power and will of the said William, granted him a yearly rent of 30^s to be taken from the prior's tenants, to the very great damage of his house of Muchelham and to the destroying of the alms and benefactions made to the priory by the King and Queen; for which William is committed to prison.

c. 1376-c. 1415. JOHN LEEM. This Prior has the most distinct personality of any in our list; while the others are content to be known merely by their title, or at most by their Christian name, his name is constantly given in full. He was no doubt a native of Willingdon, as "the land of le Leame" and Leamefeld near Foulride occur in Willingdon court rolls of 1564, and Thos. de Leem was reeve of Willingdon in 1283. The only known impression of a seal of this Priory—of which, thanks to the courtesy of the Committee of the Sussex Archaeological Society, I am able to give a drawing—is appended to the first dated deed in which his name occurs; it represents Christ seated between two slender pillars, his



SEAL OF MICHELHAM PRIORY.

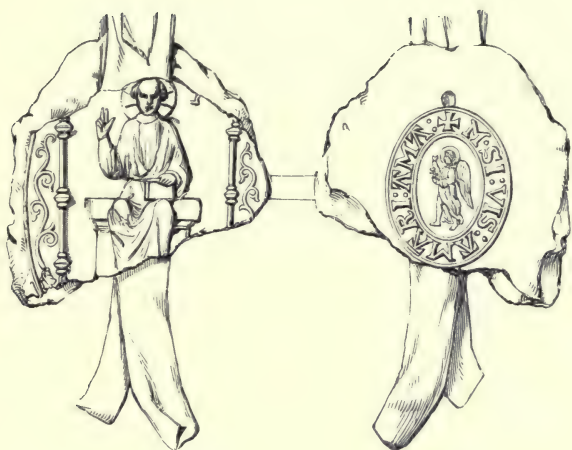


DOUBLE CHIMNEY PIECE,
MICHELHAM PRIORY.

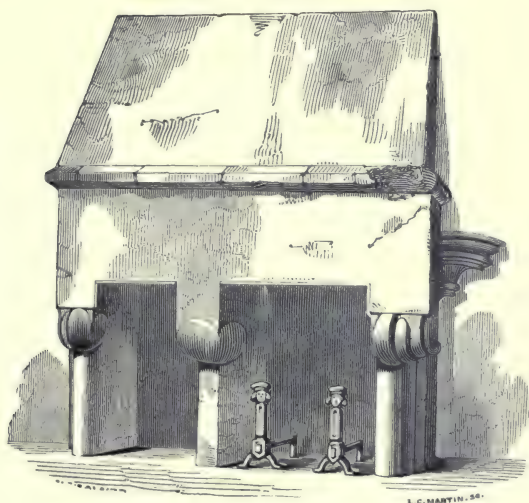
⁴⁰¹The Assize Roll of 1353 affords two entries of interest, the first giving valuable information as to the constitution of the Priory: "The Prior of Michelham holds of the Lady Queen by service of finding 13 canons to celebrate divine rites for the soul of Gilbert de Aquila and the souls of his ancestors and his heirs for ever; and of these canons eight are now wanting, so he is fined 40^s." The income of the house was probably insufficient for the support of the full number, as in none of the later visitations are there more than ten canons, but that there should be only five speaks but poorly for the head of the convent and can hardly be explained by lack of income, even when diminished by such extortion as the following:

William Gatte, bailiff of the Queen's Liberty, desiring to make some profit out of the prior of Michelham, in August 24th Edward III secured certain of the King's servants of his marshalsea to come to the prior, and told him that he would make the said servants oppress him in various ways unless he gave him a good yearly pension. And the Prior finding the malice of the said William, because he was an officer of the Lady Queen, and threatened him so cruelly that it seemed to him that the destruction of his house lay evidently within the power and will of the said William, granted him a yearly sum of 100^s to be taken from the prior's tenants, to the very great damage of the house of Michelham and to the destroying of the same and benefactions made to the priory by the King and Queen; for which William is committed to prison.

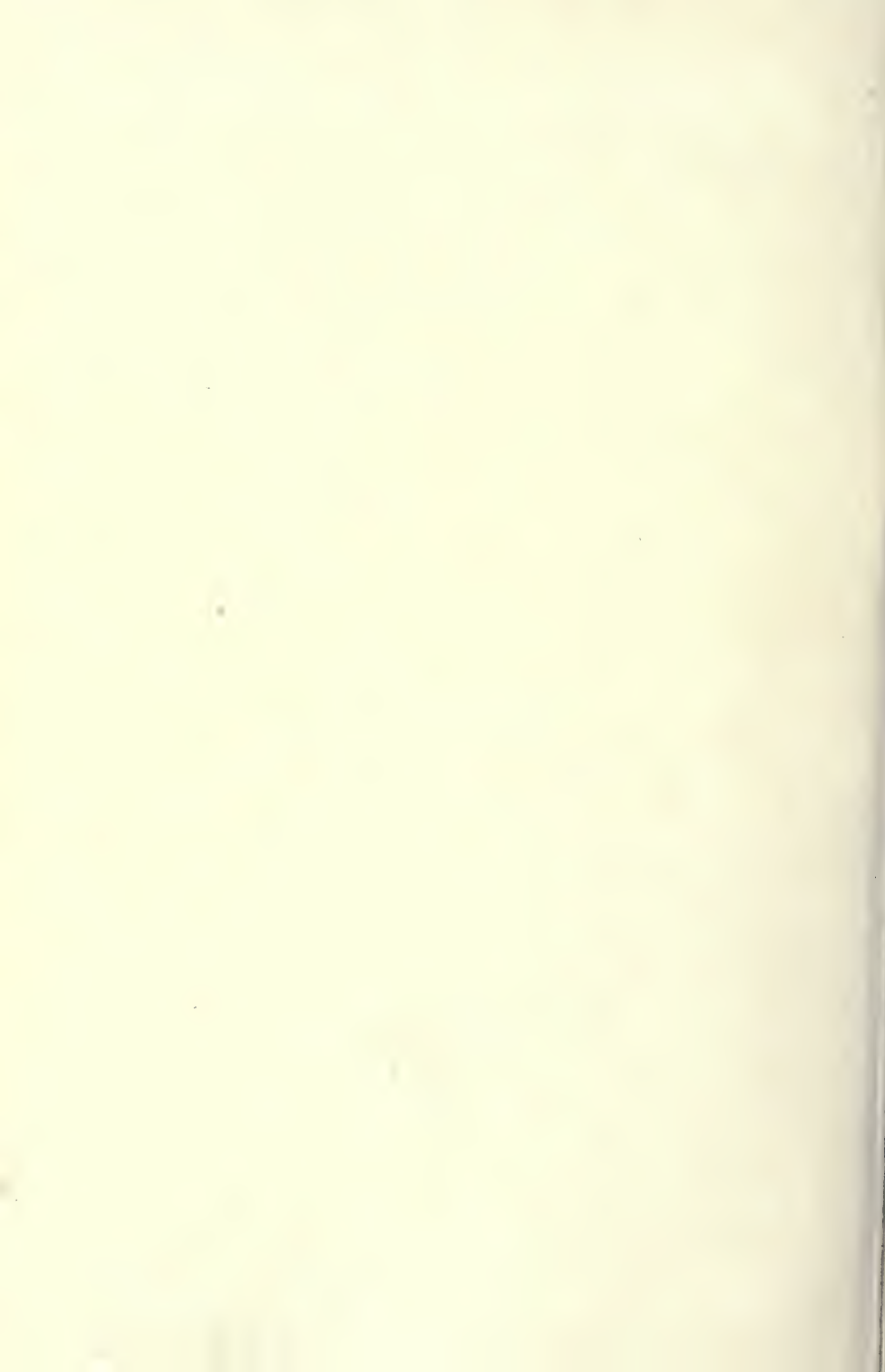
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SEAL OF MICHELHAM PRIORY.



DOUBLE CHIMNEY PIECE,
MICHELHAM PRIORY.



right hand raised in blessing, his left holding a book on his knee; on either side of the head were probably the letters Alpha and Omega, a portion of the latter remaining; the counter seal is a small oval containing apparently the Angel of the Annunciation, with the motto M. SI: VIS: AMARI: AMA:—what the M stands for may be questioned, possibly Memento or Multo; the deed to which it is affixed runs as follows:

⁴²² Brother John de Cariloco prior of St Pancras of Lewes and the convent of the same have granted to Dom. John Leame prior of Michelham—all the lands called la Wallonde which Wm. Leame and John Wythot in the parish of Herlinton and John Uptoune in Haylesham and Herlinton held of the manor of Langney; the lands of the said William and John stretching from the pasture called la Hake on the west to the grove called Okeling on the East and lying between the highway from la Hake to Haylesham on the north and the wood of the prior of Wilmington on the south; the land of John Uptoune stretching from certain lands of the prior of Michelham on the West to the street called Sirstreate Borgher on the north: the convent of Michelham paying yearly 10^s and doing service at Langney court every three weeks and paying 10^s relief and 13^s 4^d Heriot at every vacancy. —Given 14th March 1376.

This energetic Prior—to whom I am inclined to ascribe the building of the beautiful gateway tower—further obtained from ⁴²³ Lewes Priory in 1392 the manor of Sutton for a yearly rent of £5. Through his efforts the churches of Alfriston and Fletching were obtained in 1398, and his period of office was marked by two large donations to the Priory, which had been previously 40 years without adding to its estates. It is much to be regretted that no account exists of the ⁴²⁴ visitation for which the Prior of Mychilham was ordered to prepare on May 13th, 1402. Perhaps the Prior can hardly claim credit for the ⁴²⁵ bequest to his Priory in 1385 by William Reed, Bishop of Chichester, of “one book and one chalice,” as the worthy Bishop was commendably liberal to the monasteries of his diocese, leaving *inter alia* to Begham Abbey “a book of sermons, a chalice and 40^s.”

⁴²² Dy. of Lanc., Misc., XVIII., 3: a copy of the original deed. The land here given is “Highlands.”

⁴²³ “S.A.C.,” Vol. III.

⁴²⁴ Rede Register.

⁴²⁵ Courtney Register.

To John Leme also may be attributed the following petition:

⁴²⁶To our sovereign lord the King and to his learned council of Parliament sheweth their humble and poor chaplain the Prior of Michylham that whereas our said lord the King granted by his letters patent to the said Prior the custody of the alien priory of Wylmyngton during the war against the King of France, he paying therefor £100 per annum to the said King and 20 marcs per annum to the Prior of the said priory for his sustenance; the which 20 marcs shall be in addition to the rent of £100 paid to the King and shall be payable after the death of the said Prior to the King; and performing divine service, alms and works of charity for the King's ancestors and for the founders, and discharging all other costs, customs and uses; and that the said Priory of Wylmyngton is only two leagues from the priory of Michilham; for which reason, and in order to avert the ruin and damage which might have befallen the same priory of Wylmyngton if it had fallen into the hands of laymen, the said Prior took a lease of it and has been put to great expense in restoration of the buildings, in keeping out the sea and in many other ways. And now lately the said Priory of Wylmyngton has been granted to Sir James de Berners knight by a chancery patent, for the term of his life, if the war continue so long, paying no rent, the said £100 being remitted. By reason of which patent the said Prior is put, contrary to the law, to great loss and damage himself and his house; unless the remedy be given for which he appeals, that the patent given to the said Sir James be repealed, without giving notice to Sir James or other delay, upon the production of the said patent granted to the Prior; and that no grant shall be made henceforward contrary to the same patent, and that if it please the King the £100 reserved by the same patent be granted to the said Sir James, thus assisting the aforesaid prior of his grace and charity.

The Prior and Convent of Michelham were appointed to collect the ⁴²⁷subsidies from the clergy of the Arch-deaconry of Lewes in 1380, 1402 and 1410; and in 1388 the Prior was one of the Sussex clergy to sign the oath to maintain the statutes.

John Leem for several years held the post of Receiver of the Honor of Aquila. ⁴²⁸In the account of John Delve, feodary of the Duke of Lancaster for the Honor of Aquila, from 1377 to 1382, are several references to him: "Paid to John Leem prior of Michilham Receiver of the lord's moneys, £6. 13. 4 owing on his account for the second year (of Ric. II.)." 4° Ric. II., "Paid to John Leem

⁴²⁶ Ancient Petitions, 6,229.

⁴²⁷ Cler. Subs., $\frac{1}{8}$, $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$.

⁴²⁸ Orig. Min. Accts., 441—7,081.

. . . . into his own hands on one tally £37; and on another tally by the hands of William Baker his canon £8. 16; and to the same Receiver by the hands of John Colepeper, constable of the Castle, for his salary for the Easter term £8. 6. 8; to the same by the hands of Simon Carpenter for arrears of the previous year £19. 16. 7½." 1383, "John de Leem late Receiver; Wm. de Everley present Receiver immediately succeeding the prior." He held the same office in 9° and 10° Henry IV., as appears from a ⁴²⁹ bundle of receipts of those years.

⁴³⁰ In 1380 John, Prior of Michelham, was associated with Sir Thos. Hungerford (chief steward of the Honor), Roger Ashburnham and others on a commission of view and repair of dykes on "the seacoast and marsh between the township of Bourne and the townships of Helyng and Bixle"—i.e., Pevensey Levels. ⁴³¹ In 1391 the Prior, with the Abbot of Begeham, Sir Wm. Fienles, Wm. Batelesford and others form a similar commission for the marshes "from the head of Godying to Clune of Bourne," and a long undated document given by Dugdale appears to be the report of their proceedings and gives extensive details of the main streams and the names of the marshes. ⁴³² In 1402 the commissioners for the marshes between Bixle and Bechief drew up "The Estatutes of the Mersh of Penvensey."—"Thees been the Ordynaunces of the Pryour of Michelham, John Pelham and William Makenade made at Westham in the mershe of Pevensey, the Frydaye nexte before the Feaste of S^t Gregory (March 12th) the third yere of the Reign of Kinge Henry iiijth."

The two following entries are from the Bishops' Registers at Chichester: ⁴³³

1402. John Hassok, Prior of Hastings, resigned and Richard Weston of Michelham priory was elected with the consent of John Leem Prior of Michelham.

⁴²⁹ Dy. Lanc., Misc., XXVI., 43 (2).

⁴³⁰ Dugdale, "History of Embanking."

⁴³¹ Pat., 15° Ric. II., p. 1, 37 D [*Cal.*]. Coding was the small port at the mouth of Pevensey haven.

⁴³² "S.A.C.," Vol. XVIII.

⁴³³ Rede Register.

1413. To all men &c John by the mercy of God Prior of the priory of Mychelham and the convent of the same place, greeting. Know ye that we with one mind and consent have given and granted to Brother Richard Weston late Prior of Hastyng for the term of his life, a suitable room within the walls of our Priory aforesaid. We have also granted to Brother Richard Weston for the term of his life for himself such food and drink as one of our canons receives, in the Prior's hall both for dinner and supper and also food and drink for one his servant attending on him. And we will that the same brother Richard Weston during the time of his illness shall receive the same food and drink in his own room aforesaid as he would have if he were well in the Prior's hall. Moreover we have granted to him firing and candles sufficient for his room to be received in our Priory for the term of his life: and all this we by these presents bind ourselves and our successors to well and faithfully observe. In witness of which our common seal is affixed.

Given in our chapter-house of Mychilham 20th January A.D. 1413, and the second year of the reign of King Henry the Fifth.

The last date at which this Prior's name occurs is 1415, when a ⁴³⁴commission of array was issued to John, Prior of Michelham; and so after 40 years of energetic rule he disappears, and from what we read of his successors we may well believe that those who loved the Priory must have longed to have him back again. During his term of office the following canons of his house received ordination: 1398 J. Laurence, 1401 Wm. Fowler, Thos. Bowleche or Boglegh, Ph. Sessyngham, 1404 Wm. Sampson, Thos. Frere, 1407 Rt. Fromond, Wm. Edyng, 1409 Thos. Machon, John Yerdale, 1410 J. Oxenford, 1414 Wm. Broker, Ric. James, Wm. Wotton.

The Prior of 1423 appears in an unfavourable light in the only notice that we have of that decade, as at the Provincial Chapter of the Augustinians held at Northampton in July:

⁴³⁵There was read a long letter rhetorically written by the prior of Michelham . . . directed against the new abbot of S^t Augustine's of Canterbury: but because it appeared most certain that it had not sprung from the root of charity, but on the contrary had been designed with no small degree of malice to the disparagement of the said venerable father; therefore the Lords President ordered that it should be "buried with those that sleep."

⁴³⁴ Rymer's "Foedera."

⁴³⁵ Clement Reynier's "History of the Black Canons in England."

And it is very improbable that either the letter or the cause of this spite against the head of that great and distant monastery will ever be disinterred.

c. 1434-1438. WILLIAM LONDON is mentioned in a fifteenth century rental of Battle Abbey:

⁴⁸⁶The prior of Michelham for reflux of water to his mill at Michelham 4^s yearly, as appears by a certain deed in these words:—This indenture made between Thomas abbot of Battle and William prior of Michelham witnesseth that whereas the said prior and convent have from time immemorial been accustomed to have a reflux of water on the lands of the said abbot at Sternersshe to the height of 2 feet 9 inches at most, paying therefor 5^s at Hokeday and 5^s at Michaelmas; the abbot freely remits 6^s of the said 10^s rent: 10th Feb^y 12^o Henry VI.

The next notice of him is to be found on the minutes of the Privy Council, 29th July, 1437:

⁴⁸⁷By the King:

Right trusty and well beloved. Forasmuche as now late we directed our lettres undir our Privy seal unto Sir Rogier Fenys knight and other upon a suggestion not verray made unto us, as it is said, by which the Priour of Michelham, which is of our patronage as of the right of our Duchie of Lancaster of thonnor of the Egle in Sussex, was ameved and put oute as wele of the said priourie as of the possessions spiritual and temporel thereto belonging by the said Rogier; and the cōe seal of the said priourie with all the goods and catalls of the said Priour taken and beraste by the said Rogier in derogacion of the liberties of our said duchie. We wol therefore and charge you that under our privy seal being in your warde ye doo repelle and adnull the said our Itres of prive seal charging the said Rogier and others cōmissioners to surcese of their power in that behalf. So that our duchie may enjoy the libertees belonging to it, and that the said Priour be restored agein unto our said priourie and so to stand and dwell under the proteccion and tuicion of our said duchie.

The result of this order is shown by a note at the end of an inquisition of the same year concerning the Hundred of Dill:—⁴³⁸“Also by virtue of lettters patent the commissioners replaced William prior of Michelham in possession of his priory and restored to him the common seal and all the property of the priory.” He did not, however, remain long in office, as the ⁴³⁹Court Rolls of Hellingly manor for the following year, 1438, present

⁴³⁶ Aug. Off. Misc. Books, 56.

⁴³⁷ Sir Harris Nicolas, “Proceedings of the Privy Council.”

⁴³⁸ Dy. of Lanc., Inq. I., 48.

⁴³⁹ Court Rolls, 206-5.

that "William late prior of Michelham has been removed from the office of prior and Laurence Wynchelse elected prior, who has been distrained in 10^s for heriot and for fealty and relief of 2^s for land called Pekeheye;" and accordingly at the next Court Laurence admits that he holds the land of William, Abbot of Beghame, and owes 2^s relief through the deprivation of William.⁴⁴⁰ On the Pardon Roll of 1447 "William London canon late prior of Michelham" is mentioned, which gives us his full name.

1438-c. 1447. LAURENCE WYNCHELSE. For whatever reason the last prior was deposed there can scarcely have been any change for the better on the election of his successor, judging from the two visitations of the monastery, of which we have accounts:⁴⁴¹

Visitation of Mychelham Priory by the Bishop held in the chapter house there Sept 29th 1441.

To the Reverend father in Christ Richard by the Grace of God Bishop of Chichester, your humble and devoted son in Christ Laurence Prior of the Priory of Mychelham. . . . I have received your command given on the 8th of this September in these words:—Richard by the divine will Bishop of Chichester to his beloved in Christ the Prior of the Priory of Mychelham, greeting &c. . . . And by virtue of this your mandate have summoned all and every of my brother canons whose names and surnames with the titles of their offices are written below that they shall all come together before you or your deputy, if you are unable to come, on the day and place mentioned in your mandate, and for the following days if needs be, to undergo your canonical visitation and further to perform declare and undertake all that shall be required by your visitation, having myself the firm intention of appearing in my own person before you according to your mandate with my brethren. . . . I also myself intend to obey in all things your warning and will by virtue of the same warn my brethren that none shall in any manner during or before your visitation do anything to the prejudice thereof. . . . In witness whereof I have caused to be attached the seal of the official of the Archdeacon of Lewes.

I the official aforesaid at the special request of the venerable Prior aforesaid have affixed my seal in witness hereof.

Given at Mychelham 24th Sept. 1441.

NAMES OF THE CANONS AND BRETHREN THERE.

Brother Laurence, the Prior	Brother Edward Marlee
Brother William Edyng, Subprior	Brother Walter Pycombe
Brother William Sampson, Precentor	Brother Robert Stonacre
Brother William Mallyng, Cellarer	Brother John Praty

⁴⁴⁰ Pardon Roll, 670, m. 12.

⁴⁴¹ Praty Register.

INJUNCTIONS GIVEN TO THE PRIOR AND CONVENT.

- First: that the number of canons be increased by three before Easter next under penalty of 100^s to be paid to the fabrick of the church of Chichester.
- Item: that the prior provide a literate man learned in grammar to teach the younger canons, before Easter next under the same penalty.
- Item: the Prior's household shall be limited to the following: one chaplain one esquire one chamberer one cook and one valet to transact business and attend the door, and one page of the kitchen. And he shall be content with four horses in his stables.
- Item: that the prior shall go over the accounts once a year with the convent or the elders thereof.
- Item: that he shall cause the other officials of the house to similarly render their accounts once a year.
- Item: that he shall cause the buildings of the priory to be repaired especially the long room (or barn) near the brewery and the kitchen.
- Item: that he shall pay each priest canon 4 nobles yearly at the principal terms of the year and to each canon not being a priest 20^s and no more, for all kinds of special fees and for obits of two years.
- Item: that the canons shall keep silence in the proper places and at the accustomed hours and that they shall not frequent the tavern which is outside the gate of the priory.
- Item: that they shall not sell any corrody or corrodies without the licence of the diocesan under penalty of deposition of the Prior.

From the conclusion of the first paragraph it would seem that the common seal of the Priory had been lost, or more probably—if we may judge from the next visitation—secreted by the Prior for illegal purposes, such as the forging of grants from the convent to his friends. It is evident that the Prior used the revenues of his house to keep up a large personal staff of retainers and no doubt rode about the country like any temporal lord, while his “brethren” starved and shivered in their dilapidated Priory or sought solace at the neighbouring tavern. But the next visitation, held only four months later, shows the real state of affairs and shows also how much truth there was in the “humble and devoted” Prior's professed intention of obedience to the Bishop.

Visitation of the Priory of Michelham held Tuesday Jan. 24th 144 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Names of the Canons.

Laurence Wynchelse Prior	Walter Pycombe
William Edyng Subprior	Robert Stonaker
William Mallyng	John Praty
William Sampson	Leonard Tomer
Edward Marley	John Holbeme

First it was discovered that the said Laurence prior of Michelham without the leave or consent of the Chapter or of any of them had sold oaks and timber from their lands at Flecchyng to the value of 106^s 8^d Item: to John Bray from the park of Michelham to the value of 11^{li} 6^s 8^d Item from the same park to Master John Foche to the value of 23^s Item to the wife of William Vale from Isenhurst to the value of five marcs. Item two millstones with other gear belonging to the mills for 5 marcs. Item a covered silver goblet for 53^s 4^d Item he sold the stones cut and shaped for three fire-places for 60^s Item he sold from the farm 38 oxen for 38 marcs Item 6 cows for 50^s Item twelve horses of the value of £20. Item he sold to a certain man of the name of Wallere and his wife a corrody for the term of their lives or of the life of the survivor for 40 marcs. Item he granted and gave to a certain wellknown knight for the term of his life an annual pension of 100^s Item the prior sold or alienated the following books: two books of the Law, a book of the twelve prophets with a commentary, a psalter with commentary: also a book called the Apocalipsis with pictures at the end of the text: also the Chronicles of England: also a Lives of the Fathers: Also the same prior alienated the common property of his house as follows: to Roger Fynes knight two horses and 10 marcs: to Thomas Echyngham knight one and 5 marcs: to John Devenyssh one and 46^s 8^d: to Petelesden one and 8 marcs: to a man called Quik one and 20^s: to John Fyssh one and 23^s 4^d: to Thomas Fordere one and 26^s 8^d: to Richard Cooke one and 13^s 4^d: to Laurence Dobyll one and 10^s: to William Ferroure of Southwerk one and 20^s. Also the prior gives yearly to certain persons in London robes of cloth of great price, viz. to Peryer, taylor of London, to Walter Dalman Thomas Forder, Quayk brewere and his wife, and to her also a "Kyrteell cloth greyne." Also the prior without the consent of the Chapter removed the muniments of the house from a chest, it is not known for what reason nor where he put them. Also it appears that the prior alone holds all the offices of the place, he alone receives, he alone pays, he administers the common property of the house and does not pay the fees of his canons and they have scarcely enough to keep them in food and drink. Also £100 would not be enough to repair the church and buildings within and without. How the income of the house is expended beyond the necessary expenses of entertainment they know not. The house has been these two years in debt to the amount of 67^{li} 9^s 7^d as appears more fully in the third household account of the said prior Laurence.

All the above were done, sold, alienated and withdrawn by the said prior Laurence contrary to and in spite of our injunctions prohibitions and warnings and contrary to his oath of obedience to us wherefore he stands condemned of perjury and disobedience.

The notice of the books alienated is interesting: of the great part played in monastic life by books and of the value attached to them much may be found in Mr. Willis Clark's excellent "Observances of the Augustinian Priory of Barnwell." The Library—which was practically a monastic institution, hardly to be found outside the walls of a convent—was under the care of the Precentor, from whom the canons, and under certain strict conditions outsiders, might borrow books to be read in the cloisters, where also some of the religious would spend their time writing and illuminating those marvels of neatness and beauty of which so many thousands perished at the Dissolution. The "well known knight" may have been Sir Roger Fiennes—the builder of Herstmonceux castle—the most powerful of their neighbours, who appears to have caused the last Prior to be temporarily ejected, and could no doubt have made himself very objectionable if not propitiated; at a later date we find Lord Dacre, his grandson, in possession of a pension from the convent. The presents to Londoners suggest, as is indeed very probable, that the Prior spent much of his time away from the monastery, over whose welfare, spiritual and temporal, he was supposed to watch so jealously; or possibly they had been originally granted by his predecessor, William "London." This latter was, as we have seen, still a canon in 1447, so that unless he had been sent away to do penance in some other religious house, he must have been identical with one of the three Williams mentioned in the list of canons. Perhaps the most remarkable fact concerning the last visitation is that ⁴⁴²Laurence Wynchelse is still prior of the house of Holy Trinity, Michelham, in 1447.

⁴⁴³The only other reference to this Prior is a receipt, dated 1440, by Laurence, Prior of Mychelham, of 20^s rent from Master Simon Berneval for the manor of Sutton.

c. 1450-1482. EDWARD MARLEY. He was canon in 1441 and probably succeeded Laurence Winchelse. As a Prior, though not so actively bad as his predecessor, he

⁴⁴² Pardon Roll, 670, m. 29.

⁴⁴³ Bodleian, Sussex Charters, 167.

appears to have been feeble, careless and incompetent: under him the Priory buildings fell to ruin and the strictness of the monastic code was relaxed till even the sanctity of the church services was profaned by the irreverence of these self-styled "men of religion." Such is the state of affairs shown by the visitation made in 1478:

⁴⁴⁴Visitation of Michelham Priory 1478.

Edward Marlay prior there made obeisance and being sworn and examined says: That for the greater part they do not keep silence. Also that Alice Forde is a woman of doubtful reputation among them. Also that John Helbome and Dom. Thomas Andrewwe departed and went away without the prior's licence. Also Alan Morefote frequents the tavern and often goes out without the prior's licence. Also that Lord de Dacre has a Fee of 5 marcs for the term of his life under the Common Seal. Also that Thomas Marlay brother of the said prior has five marcs for the term of his life under the common seal. Also that Thomas Exbridge has 26^s under the common seal, and N. Gylryge similarly has 13^s 4^d.

Dom. Thomas Stanaker canon and cellarer there . . . says: That Lord de Dacre has 5 marcs under the common seal and has had it for 12 years. Also that the brother of the prior has 4 marcs and over. Also that at the time of the ⁴⁴⁵law suit between themselves and the Abbey and Convent of Bigam the Jewels of the house were sold to pay the law expenses, as will appear by the Inventory. Also that there are two mills belonging to the priory altogether in ruin. Also the dormitories of the house with other rooms buildings and granges are in bad repair. Also that Dom. John West frequently leaves the house either with licence or without. Also all the other canons frequently go out to the beershop. Also for 28 years the prior has given no account of the business nor declared the state of the priory to the deponent and his brethren, save once. Also that they do not keep silence and do not feed together in the Refectory but in the Hall and in the Prior's chamber. Also that there are six canons beside the Prior and the ancient number used to be nine. Also that Alice Forde comes to the house too frequently under suspicious circumstances. Also that Thomas Patys has withdrawn without the prior's licence and is therefore in a state of Apostasy. Also that Dom. Thomas (*sic*) Helbeme was absent for 15 years and afterwards returning poisoned the whole convent with his strange and evil arguments.

Dom. John Helbeme . . . says: That the Prior has not given any account, as said above, for 20 years. Also that Symond Smyth has for the term of his life for himself and his wife as much food as two

⁴⁴⁴ Storey Register.

⁴⁴⁵ The only reference to this suit that I have found is in 1458: "Attainder brought by abbot of Begham against prior of Mechelham in the King's Bench; jurors challenged as not being worth £20 per annum" (Year Book, 36^o Henry VI., § 15).

canons have, for which he paid 40 marcs. Also the Rector of ⁴⁴⁶Hothles has under the common seal food for the term of his life for which he paid £10. Also Lord de Dacre has five marcs and the prior's brother has a Fee as mentioned above. Also that they do not keep silence in the proper and appointed times and places. Also that at the time of Divine Service while they are singing reading and chanting the psalms they talk together and so disturb the service. Also concerning the mills and buildings and their need of repair, as above. Also that they do not eat together in the refectory. Also that they have no subprior. Also that Alice Ford is suspected as regards Dom. John West and several others and has food and clothing from the Monastery to the damage prejudice and scandal of the Monastery.

Dom. John West . . . says: That, as above stated, the prior has rendered no account of the corrodies and fees, and that there are also several others whose names he does not at present know who have fees under the common seal. Also, having been put on his oath, he says that he has carnally known Alice Forde wife of John Ford: Also that he does not rise up to Mass, nor do his brethren rise up together at midnight as they ought, so he says. Also that they have no subprior.

Dom. Thomas Andrewe . . . says: That there is a good Religious Canon, by name Dom. Elizeus who resides at Tortington, whom he would wish to be subprior. Also that Dom. John West lives incontinently. Also that they are without a sacrist: and that the vestments and other ornaments of the church are in very bad condition owing to the lack of a sacrist or custodian. Also that the prior has withdrawn certain sums of money due to them by ancient custom from the obits.

Dom. Alan Morfet . . . says: that he has three times known a certain wandering woman whose name and place of residence he does not know; therefore the lord Bishop commands him to fast seven days. Also that Dom. John West was in ill repute as regards the wife of John Forde, as also the prior; in all other points he agrees with his brethren, as above.

John Knowles canon there made obeisance to the Bishop and is not professed.

INJUNCTIONS.

First the Bishop commands the prior under penalty of deposition that he do not allow Alice Forde to have access to him nor to the other canons of his house as she had been accustomed to have. Also he commands the said Alice that she shall not dwell within four miles of the place. Also that the prior and his brethren shall not frequently go out of the house except upon affairs of business, on pain of imprisonment and the penalties of disobedience. Also all the canons shall perform the following penance; they shall fast on bread and water on Friday next after this judgment, which will be the 18th day of the present Year (*sic*). Also that Dom. John West shall not go out of the enclosure of the house till the arrival of a subprior to be sent by the Bishop. Also all the canons shall keep silence as befits their religion in the proper and appointed times and places. Also that they

ought to eat together in the Refectory ; and to assist this end he gives them 10^s to repair the roof of the refectory.

Also on the same day the Bishop imprisoned Dom. John West in the customary place for his offences and to the end that he should not go out of the following places till the arrival of the subprior, viz. the cloister, the church, the dormitory and the refectory. Also he commanded him that on every Friday till the coming of the subprior he should fast on bread and water.

And the Bishop sent them Dom. Elizeus canon of Tortington and elected him subprior with the consent of the prior and chapter.

Such was the state of Michelham Priory at the end of the fifteenth century and such was the state of hundreds of the smaller monasteries throughout the kingdom. Little wonder that the next century should see their suppression, more wonder that they should have survived so long. Not that the convents were, as they are often called, "hot-beds of vice;" nor did they exert a corrupting influence over the laity—save that they tended to bring religion into contempt—they were no worse than their neighbours, but they were little better: starting with the highest ideals, the abjuration of the world and the abnegation of self, the desire for a spiritual life and the service of God, the monastic system had done glorious service for religion and learning ; but it had outlived its day ; the wealth abjured by its followers was heaped upon them by pious or hell-scared laymen and necessitated their leaving their cloisters to fight in the law-courts, a process which tends the least of any to being "in charity with all men," and the features of their high ideal were lost, tarnished and blackened by the smoke of burnt offerings—fired originally to the glory of God and the enlightenment of the world, but later serving only to give warmth to lean-souled brethren—till only the outline, form and ceremony remained : then the reaction, despised by the laity, plundered by the nobles—and often by their own heads—poverty fell upon them and with poverty despair, and even the performance of their dead ritual became slipshod and careless : then the end. Not that this is true of all ; many, especially amongst the larger establishments, retained to the last much of their ancient "beauty of holiness," but the larger number of religious houses were undoubtedly in a deplorable condition.

But to return. Concerning the new sub-prior there are one or two points of interest. It will be noticed that John Helbeme, the only canon who makes complaint about the conduct of the service, is accused of having acquired heretical doctrines during his 15 years' absence from the convent, and Thomas Andrewe, who would appear to have been his companion during that time, speaks in favour of Elizeus, the canon of Tortington. Upon looking up the visitation of Tortington for the same year we find: "Dom. Elias Parker, sacrist, says that he has much offended against the prior at different times by disobedience and especially on last Relic Sunday by using opprobrious words, and he therefore humbly begs pardon for his disobedience." Further details are given by Dom. Richard Bampton, who says that "Dom. Elias was disobedient to the prior on the day of relics last past, for he told the prior that he committed idolatry in worshipping and honouring sacred objects and relics of saints and placing them upon the high altar and so they contended together."

The appointment, however, of this religious and enlightened sub-prior was not enough, and after a visitation in 1481, of which the result is not recorded, pressure was probably brought to bear on Edward Marley, which resulted in his resignation. ✓

⁴⁴⁷ 1482 Sept. 4 . . . In a small room of the monastery of the Holy Trinity at Michelham in my presence and in the sight of those whose names are given below being present in their own persons, the honorable man of religion, Edward Marley, then prior of that Monastery produced a certain act of resignation written with his own hand laying aside and resigning his said priorship in the following words: In the Name of God—I Edward Marley, priest, canon of the order of St Augustine, prior of the Monastery of the Holy Trinity at Mychelham being worn out with old age and bodily weakness and being unable any longer to maintain the rule and burden of the office of Prior; and therefore wishing and seeking, these and other causes warning me, to be relieved from the burden, care, rule, office and administration of the spiritual and temporal matters of the said priory, I resign the said priorship with all the dignities rights and privileges thereto appertaining, into the hands of the venerable Masters William Mille and John Fuller, Bachelors of Law, appointed for this special

purpose, and do of my own free will renounce and by this deed do fully and absolutely resign the said dignity and office.

This was done as is described above on the aforesaid day in the presence of ⁴⁴⁸John Denysh Esquire Robert Bussebrygge and Robert Stoneacre Canon of the Diocese of Chichester, witnesses of the above. And I Edward Fowler of Rype of the Diocese of Sarum Notary Public being there present in my own person saw and heard all the above so done. ✓

1482-c. 1509. JOHN WEST. Of his election we have a long and interesting account, in which he plays a satisfactory part, and knowing nothing against him as Prior we will hope that he had turned over a new leaf since the visitation of 1478:

⁴⁴⁷Elias Parker supprior of the Monastery of the Holy Trinity at Mychelham informs the Bishop of the resignation of Edward Marley and that the convent after a meeting in chapter had fixed September the 13th for the election of the new Prior.

And when the 13th of September, the date fixed for the election as has been related, was come, the Mass of the Holy Spirit was first celebrated with due reverence in the church of our Monastery and then the bell rang as usual for Chapter. Immediately all who would could or should take part in an election of this kind, namely myself Brother Elias Parker subprior and Brothers Edward Marley Dom. Robert Stoneacre Dom. John Holbeme Dom. John Knotte Dom. John West Dom. Thomas Andrew (by his proxy lawfully appointed) Dom. Alan Morfote and John Appys a novice, canons and brethren, one and all assembled as for chapter together with Notaries public and witnesses in our chapter house; and the Word of God was expounded by Master William Mylle. And when this was finished, having invoked the Grace of God in prayer by the singing of the hymn "Veni Creator Spiritus," the Decree of the General Council "Qua propter" was read before us and expounded in the vulgar tongue, and after several commands recommendations and prohibitions customary at elections had been given by me the subprior we held a discussion as to what way or manner we should proceed in the matter of this election and finally we decided to proceed by way of ballot. Then we chose two trustworthy members of our convent, Dom. John Knotte and Dom. Alan Morfote, and to them we others being met in chapter for the election gave power that they should enquire the wishes of all of us secretly and separately and write them down and speedily declare the same votes themselves or cause them to be declared by one of the Notaries public. Thereupon the scrutineers accepting their office withdrew to a corner of the chapter-house, the rest of us all going out, and associating with themselves the Notaries Public and witnesses proceeded to the ballot enquiring in turn the votes of all and every of

⁴⁴⁸ His father, John Denysssh, Esq., of Hellingly, left in 1477 "to the prior and convent of Michelham for obits 20^s"—and the same to Bayham and Robertsbridge and 6^s 8^d to Hastings (Wattys, 28).

us separately and secretly and caused the same votes to be at once written down by one of the Notaries, as they afterwards told us. And when all the votes had been thus obtained and written down, then immediately before anything else was done Edward Fowler who was on this occasion associated with another Notary Public declared the whole of the said votes before us all who had now returned to the chapter-house. And when they had been declared we made a count and found that no more had voted than had a right to take part in the election; and one and all without exception—save that John Appys the novice had given his vote for Dom. Helias Parker—had voted for our brother John West—John West himself having voted for Elias Parker. And immediately we one and all electors of this election approving and confirming the choice solemnly chanting “Te Deum Laudamus” conducted our said prior elect, as our custom is, to the high altar in our conventual church and there set him down. And when the said chant and the customary prayer had been finished I the subprior on my own behalf and on behalf of all the electors did in the choir of our said church clearly announce and declare in the vulgar tongue to the people there assembled the election of our said brother John West. And later after the third hour of the same day the said Dom. John Knotte and Dom. Alan Morfote, the scrutineers, on their own behalf and on behalf of all the electors declared and presented in writing the result of the election to the said John West our elect in the hall of the priory before the notaries and witnesses and begged him constantly and with all due instance that he would deign to give his consent to the election of himself thus made, but he refused his assent making many excuses for himself and said that he wished to have time for consideration of the matter. And later in the same day about the fifth hour John Knotte and Alan Morfote went again to our elect who was then in the Chapel of the Blessed Mary, and desired his consent as before and he after making various excuses, being overcome by the prayers of us and of others standing by, and not wishing, as he said, to resist the divine will, did within the time allowed by law on such occasions namely on the same day consent to his election. . . . Wherefore we Elias Parker subprior and the convent of Mychelham unanimously beg that you will deign to graciously confirm this our election.

Witness; Dom. William Joys vicar of Chidingale and Dom. John Whytngton vicar of Selmyston.

After this follow the declarations of the two Notaries, Edward Fuller of Rype of Sarum diocese, and Walter Fuller of Ulfeld of Canterbury diocese, to the effect that the above account is correct. Then a letter of Thomas Wyllys vicar of Fryston and Dean of Pevensay to the Bishop that on the 7th and 8th of October he made proclamation in the church of Michelham that any one objecting to the election of John West should come forward, but none did so. And finally John Cloos Dean of Chichester, acting for the Bishop who is absent on affairs outside the diocese, confirms the election.

John, Prior of Michelham, was summoned to convocation by the Bishop eight times between the years 1483

and 1509. In the latter year he was associated with the Prior of Lewes, John and Thomas Theccher and others on a ⁴⁴⁹commission of sewers for the district "from la Beauchieff to Pevensey and through the marsh of Wellington and Moryngemyll to Langney-gatte and thence to the sea, and from Hanwell within the flow of the sea to Estborn Wellington and Langney." The following document of the previous year is given by Dugdale in his "Embanking:"

At a Last held at West Ham 3rd Oct. 24 Henry VIII. (*sic—recte* Henry VII.) before John prior of Lewes, Richard abbot of Begham, John prior of Michelham, Thomas Lord Dacres and others it was enacted that no man should set nets pots or engines or make dams &c within the bounds of Pevensey Marsh under penalty of 10^s to be levied by the bailiff for the common good of the Marsh. But this is not to prevent land-owners having full right of fishing provided they do not interfere with the system of drainage. ✓

c. 1518-1537. THOMAS HOLBEME. He was ordained sub-deacon in 1502 and was probably the immediate successor of John West. ⁴⁵⁰In 1518 a charter of confirmation was granted to Thomas, Prior of Michelham; it is practically identical with that granted in 1425 and contains no fresh items. ⁴⁵¹In 1522, amongst those who subscribed towards "an annual grant to be made by the spirituality for the King's personal expenses in France for the recovery of the crown of France," the Prior of Michilham is put down for £50. ⁴⁵²At the convocation at Canterbury in 1533, on the question of the King's divorce, Thomas, Prior of Michelham, was one of the 253 who sided with the King—19 only having the courage to oppose him. ⁴⁵¹In 1535 Thomas, Prior of Michilham, leased the manor of Chinting to Arthur Banester, gent., son of Joan, widow of William Everard, and John Okynden, of Seaford, for £15. 6. 8 plus 16 qrs. of wheat and 14 qrs. of barley yearly; the lessors and lessees to be allowed to take fish and waterfowl in the marshes. His letter about the manor of Otham has been

⁴⁴⁹ Pat., 1^o Henry VIII., p. 2, m. 2 D [Cal.].

⁴⁵⁰ Pat., 10^o Henry VIII., p. 2, m. 28.

⁴⁵¹ "Letters and Papers of Henry VIII."

⁴⁵² Fiddes, "Life of Cardinal Wolsey."

already quoted. There are three visitations recorded during his priorship, giving but little information : ⁴⁵³

Visitation of the Priory of Michelham held by John Worthiall
19th Sept. 1521.

Dom. Thomas Holben prior

Dom. Alan Morfote subprior

Dom. Mathew Blachyndon sacrist

Dom. Thomas Lucke precentor

⁴⁵⁴ Dom. Edmund Pellam master of the novices

NOVICES

Martin Cater }
Robert Forde } professed

Robert Mote }
William Cooper } not professed

The Prior and the brethren all say that all is well.

Visitation of the Priory of Michelham by Master John Worthiall
Aug 31st 1524

Dom. Thomas Holbeme prior }
Dom. Alan Morfote subprior }
Dom. Thomas Luck sacrist } priests
Dom. Edmund Pellam cellarer }

Dom. Robert Mott }
Martin Kater }
Robert Forde } Novices
William Cooper }

Dom. Thomas Holbeme the prior says that as regards the conduct of his brethren all is well : the house is ruinous in places especially in the cloister. Then the visitor orders him to sufficiently repair all the defects within a year from the feast of All Saints next under penalty of 20^s to be paid to the Cathedral church, and to show an account of his administration there before next Easter together with a list of the goods and jewels of the house.

All the Canons say that all is well.

Visitation in 1527.

Dom. Thomas Holbeme prior
Dom. Alan Morfote subprior
Dom. Thomas Luck sacrist
Dom. Edmund Pellam cellarer
Dom. Robert Mott instructor of
the novices

Dom. William Copar
Dom. Martin Cater deacon
Dom. Robert Forde deacon
Gregory Fote }
William Luck } novices

Dom. Thomas Holbeme the prior says that all is well save that the priory is somewhat ruinous. The other canons say that all is well.

Though little is to be learnt from these brief notices, that in itself shows that the state of affairs had much improved since fifty years before, though the Priory was evidently in straitened circumstances. When it fell in accordance with the decree for the suppression of the

⁴⁵³ Shirburne Register.

⁴⁵⁴ Possibly the "Sir Pelham," afterwards chaplain of Otham.

lesser monasteries no such scandalous wickedness was alleged against it as was subsequently laid to the charge—with how much truth?—of Lewes and Battle, two of the “great solemn monasteries wherein (thanks be to God) religion is right well kept and observed,” as they were termed in the hypocritical preamble of the first Act of Suppression.

The history of the Priors may well conclude with the following:

⁴⁵⁵The King to all &c: When lately the Priory of Michelham was suppressed by authority of Parliament, Thomas Holbeme was Prior there and had been for a long time previous: we being willing to give a reasonable annual pension to the same Thomas for his maintenance and support have granted to him an annuity or annual pension of £20 sterling to be held enjoyed and received yearly from the time of the dissolution of the said late Priory to the end of the life of the said Thomas or until he be advanced by us to one or more ecclesiastical benefices or other fitting provision of the clear yearly value of £20 or over.

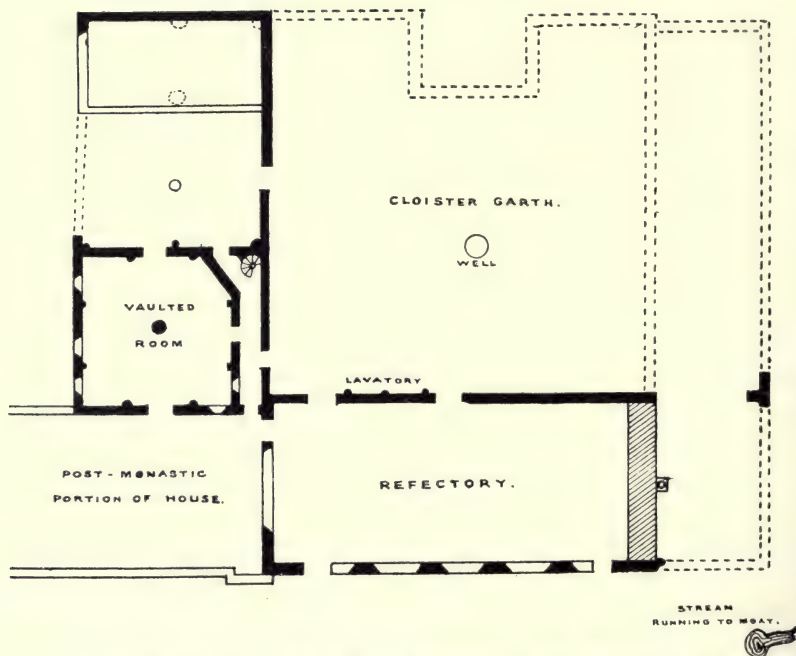
Given at Westminster, 8th March, 28th year of our reign.

⁴⁵⁵ Aug. Off. Misc. Books, 232.



THE GATEWAY TOWER.

SITE OF THE CHURCH.



GROUND PLAN OF MICHELHAM PRIORY.

CHAPTER XVI.

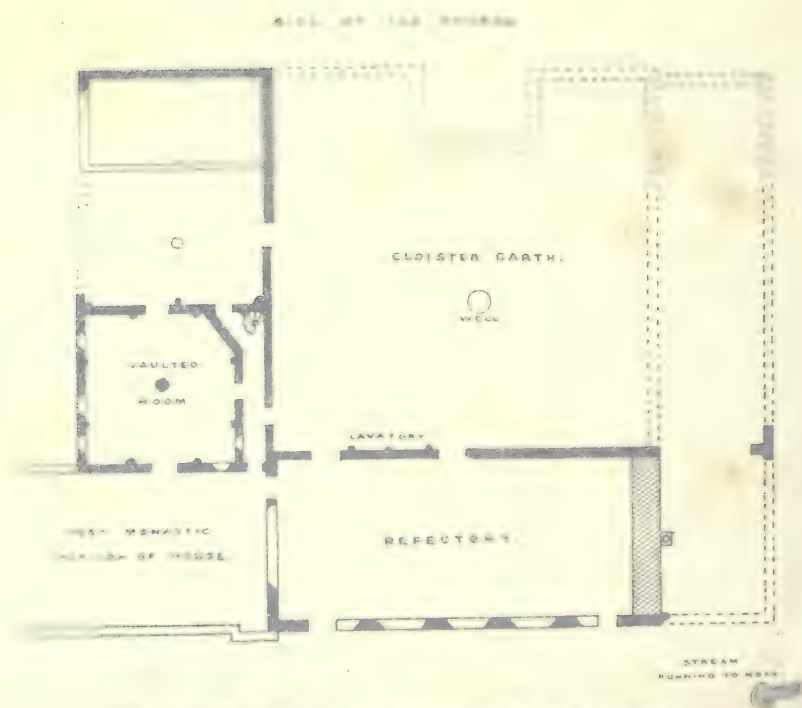
THE architectural remains of the Priory of Michelham consist of the handsome gateway tower guarding the bridge across the river, and a portion of the conventual buildings now incorporated with later, post-monastic, additions to form the present house. The Priory does not appear to have differed from the normal plan of an Augustinian house—that is to say, the church on the north, chapter house with dormitory above it on the east, refectory on the south and the abbot's buildings on the west. The church has been utterly destroyed and even the foundations cannot at present be accurately traced, but either one of the transepts or a chapel seems to have projected into the cloister-garth; it was presumably cruciform and, as we learn from inventories, possessed five bells. The chapter house and dormitory are similarly wanting, but a portion at least of the refectory remains, enough to give some idea of its original form. It was a long and lofty hall—some 40 feet in length, lit on either side by five windows (shown only on the south in the plan) and a very fine window at the west end: this window was of five lights, apparently in the early "Geometrical" style, and measures across at the spring of the arch, 13-ft. 8-in.; at the north angle of the west wall is a plain pointed doorway and another smaller at the west end of the south wall; opposite the latter in the north wall is another slightly more elaborate entrance, the architrave being of two chamfered orders and the hood ascending terminating on the west in the head of a man wearing a hat; some 12 feet east of this door is "another smaller and quite plain, probably the brethren's entrance, the other leading to the dais where the prior and guests sat. Between the two doors is an interesting structure which I consider to have been the lectern. It consists of two graceful arcades springing from "capped" ornamented

¹ From the way in which the door was inserted I am inclined to think that it was filled up before the destruction of the church.

² Mr. F. W. Johnson has pointed out the interesting fact that the chapel on the north of Bishopton Church is identical in the same builder as this part of Michelham, the village of the latter is only a few miles distant.



THE GATEWAY TOWER.



GROUND PLAN OF MICHELHAM PRIORY.

CHAPTER XVI.

THE architectural remains of the Priory of Michelham consist of the handsome gateway tower guarding the bridge across the moat, and a portion of the conventual buildings now incorporated with later, post-monastic, additions to form the present house. The Priory does not appear to have differed from the normal plan of an Augustinian house—that is to say, the church on the north, chapter house with dormitory above it on the east, refectory on the south and the cellarer's buildings on the west. The church has been utterly destroyed and even the foundations cannot at present be accurately traced, but either one of the transepts or a chapel seems to have projected into the cloister-garth; it was presumably cruciform and, as we learn from inventories, possessed five bells. The chapter house and dormitory are similarly wanting, but a portion at least of the refectory remains, enough to give some idea of its original form. It was a long and lofty hall—some 40 feet in length, lit on either side by five windows (shown only on the south in the plan) and a very fine window at the west end; this window was of five lights, apparently in the early “Geometrical” style, and measures across at the spring of the arch, 13-ft. 6-in.; at the north angle of the west wall is a plain pointed doorway and another similar at the west end of the south wall; opposite the latter in the north wall is another slightly more elaborate entrance, the architrave being of two chamfered orders and the hood moulding terminating on the west in the head of a man wearing a hat; some 12 feet east of this door is ⁴⁵⁶ another smaller and quite plain, probably the brethren's entrance, the other leading to the dais where the Prior and guests sat. Between the two doors is an interesting structure which I consider to have been the lavatory; it consists of two graceful arches springing from ⁴⁵⁷ capitals ornamented

⁴⁵⁶ From the way in which this door was blocked I am inclined to think that it was filled up before the dissolution of the Priory.

⁴⁵⁷ Mr. P. M. Johnston has pointed out to me the interesting fact that the chapel on the north of Hellingly Church is obviously by the same builder as this part of Michelham, the foliage of the capitals in each case being exactly similar.

with well-executed foliage. The space enclosed by the two arches—measuring ten feet in length—was originally filled in with carefully faced blocks of brown sandstone, of which a portion remains in the eastern bay, the rest having been removed in the seventeenth century to insert a ⁴⁵⁸ window; below these faced blocks—which seem to have been covered with plaster, in which case they would no doubt have been painted—at a distance of 3-ft. 6-in. from the apex of the arch runs a simple projecting cornice of the same stone. Below the cornice is now rough ashlar, but probably there was originally a basin or trough, possibly of marble, with a raised step; there is a square opening at the west end of the cornice and in the centre below the junction of the two arches is a hollow depression, which may have been for the cock if the water was brought by a pipe from inside through the opening just mentioned; one might, however, have expected the basin to be filled by hand from the well in the centre of the cloister-garth—still marked by a pump. It may not be out of place here to quote one or two remarks by Mr. Willis Clark, bearing on the monastic lavatory: ⁴⁵⁹ “At daybreak the brethren were again awakened by sound of bell. On leaving the Dorter they went to the lavatory in the cloister to wash their hands and comb their hair, and then to the church. . . . In the House of St. Denis at Rheims . . . before Prime was sung (at daybreak) all the brethren are to get up and go to the lavatory, and if all cannot wash at the same time the juniors are to wash first. When they have washed their hands they are to go into that part of the cloister which is next to the church and to wait until all have washed. . . . After sext (or on fast days none). The brethren left the church in procession and when the Sub-Prior had rung the dinner-bell they went straight into the frater after washing at the lavatory—where (at Barnwell) a whetstone and sand were kept for sharpening their knives.”

At the time of the dissolution the refectory was evidently unroofed and the upper part of its walls thrown

⁴⁵⁸ View by Grimm, about 1784; Add. MSS., 5,671, fo. 51.

⁴⁵⁹ “Observances in Use at the Augustinian Priory of Barnwell.”



Photograph by

E. F. Smith.

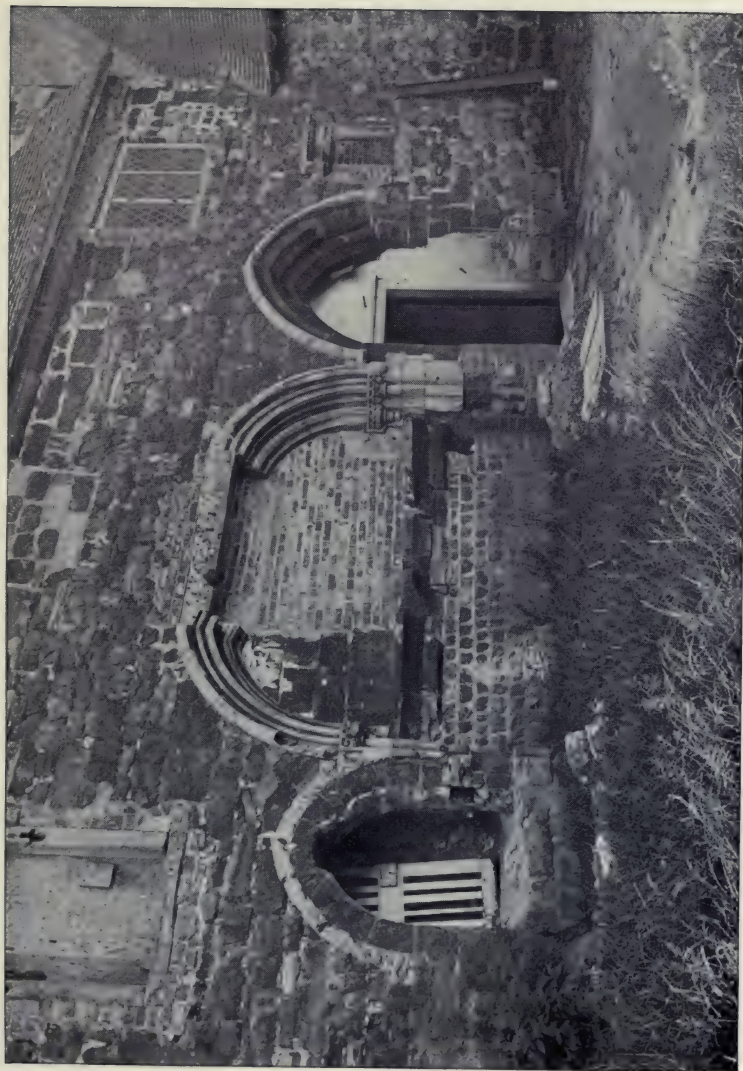
NORTH WALL OF REFECTORY.

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Photograph by

E. Unwin.

NORTH WALL OF REFECTORY.



Photo. by

P. M. Johnston.

**CARVED CAPITAL ON N. WALL
OF REFECTORY.**



Photo. by

P. M. Johnston.

BOSS IN THE VAULTED ROOM.

down; subsequently, it was divided into two storeys and cut up into a number of small rooms, so that no traces of the original internal arrangements can be discerned. At the east end—the door in the south wall here is of the seventeenth century—the wall, having fallen down some fifty years since, was roughly rebuilt and only retains the ancient structure & mould at the south angle and a pillar against the corner of the wall. These both appear to me to be of the original position and to have supported the ceiling of the south chamber outlined on the floor, perhaps the “*chamberlain’s room*,” in excavating the foundations of which a number of tiles stamped with the monogram of the Holy Trinity were found.¹⁰ Above this was the passage and to the south of it the residence, at which the only trace was a small drainage stream running to the street.

The best perfect remains of the monastic buildings are to be found on the western side of the choir-garth—the cloisters themselves have completely vanished, they may have been only of wood, and were noted as in bad repair, even before the suppression. The room marked on the plan “*Vaulted Room*” is a square chamber with very massive walls; it was until recently divided by partitions into four small rooms, but has now been opened up by Mr. Gwynne. The handsome vaulted roof is supported by massive ribs springing from a circular central pillar and eight corbels, two on each wall (see the two illustrations); at the intersection of the ribs, the corbels, of which one is carved into the shape of a lion, and a second bears an heraldic rose, apparently, as in a later period—the third appears to have the emblem of the Holy Trinity slightly cut upon its surface and the fourth a plain. There are two modern windows in the west wall and the northernmost bay of this wall contains traces of an ancient blocked window or door, and in the centre of the south wall a modern door

¹⁰ *Excavations*, etc., see also for the inspection of the Street Archaeological Society, and a list of the meeting at Mithellam, and at the end of the street, where the old one, had all disappeared. They have not yet been returned.



Photo. by

P. M. Johnson.

CARVED CAPITAL ON N. WALL
OF REFECTORY.



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The most perfect remains of the monastic buildings are to be found on the western side of the cloister-garth—the cloisters themselves have completely vanished, they may have been only of wood, and were noted as in bad repair, even before the suppression. The room marked on the plan “Vaulted Room” is a square chamber with very massive walls; it was until recently divided by partitions into four small rooms, but has now been opened up by Mr. Gwynne. The handsome vaulted roof is supported by massive ribs springing from a circular central pillar and eight corbels, two on each wall (see the two illustrations); at the intersection of the ribs are circular bosses, of which one is carved into the semblance of clownish face, a second bears an heraldic rose—possibly added at a later period—the third appears to have the emblem of the Holy Trinity slightly cut upon its surface and the fourth is plain. There are two modern windows in the west wall and the northernmost bay of that wall contains traces of an ancient blocked window or door; in the centre of the south wall a modern door

⁴⁶⁰ These tiles were laid out for the inspection of the Sussex Archaeological Society on the occasion of their meeting at Michelham, and at the end of the meeting, so Mr. Gwynne tells me, had all disappeared. They have not yet been returned.

leads to what would originally have been the exterior, but is now part of the house; the blocked door on the north seems also to be post-monastic. A door on the east leads into a vaulted passage or slype with a door to the exterior at its southern end; at the northern end is a circular stair leading to a room above, and also the entrance into what was apparently a large vaulted chamber, of which the only remains are three corbels on the south wall and two on the north (now forming part of a stable) and the base of a circular column, marked on the plan. The slype was lighted by a squint-like window high up in the south-west angle and had a door, now blocked and converted into a window, opening into the cloisters. It only remains to mention two curious openings in the walls of the vaulted room; both are square, low down—about four feet from the ground—and have broad deeply splayed sills; one opens into the slype, on which side it is splayed, and the other communicated with the exterior, being splayed on the inside; their use is problematical; the large chamber on the north may have been either the kitchen or cellarage, the vaulted room the cellarer's office, or "checker," and the openings have served as a kind of buttery-hatch, the provisions being passed through the one into the checker and thence through the other to the attendants just outside the refectory door. On the other hand, they may not.

The circular stair already mentioned led up into a large room with a very lofty roof, now considerably lowered; this was probably the Prior's hall. In the south wall were (probably) two fine fourteenth century windows of two lights divided by a transom, measuring 10-ft. 6-in. by 4-ft.; of these only the eastern has as yet been uncovered. Between the windows is the fine fireplace divided into two portions, with a flat stone bracket on either side of the projecting funnel (see woodcut, p. 220); in this formerly stood a pair of ⁴⁶¹andirons terminating in human heads wearing caps of the time of Henry VII. High up above the fireplace was a third small window. At the north-

⁴⁶¹ These were removed by a late tenant, and I should be glad to hear of their whereabouts.

THE GALLERY ROOM.

Pl. 100.



THE STYDE.

Pl. 101.



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E. Ungen.

THE VAULTED ROOM.

Photo. by

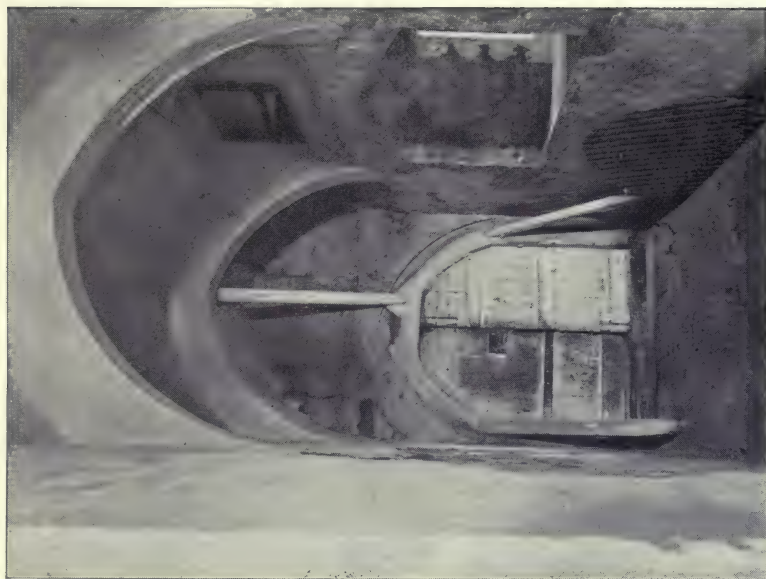


Photo. by

THE SLYPE.

E. Ungen.

west angle of the room is a blocked doorway from which a flight of steps seems to have led down to the ground; and another door in the north wall communicated with rooms now destroyed.

Mr. Cooper states that "an old plan, dated 1667, shows the building to have been at that time much more extensive towards the north, having the principal front to the west, with three chimneys instead of the solitary one now remaining, and a roof much higher than the present, of which a small part still exists." A copy of this plan,⁴⁶² in Mr. Gwynne's possession, which I have seen, does not seem to me to bear out these remarks. It is a rough drawing of the estate by a local carpenter, the house not being depicted with any attempt at accuracy; the three chimneys are probably the one original and two later stacks now existing, drawn with no regard to perspective, and my personal opinion is that the house has been practically as it now is for the last 300 years. Of the post-monastic portion of the house I shall merely say that several of the rooms contain good old oak panelling, much of which has got into a very bad condition, but is being well restored by the present owner.

The gateway tower is a handsome massive grey stone structure of the fifteenth century. On a level with the moat is a dark damp brick chamber, either used as a cellar or possibly the monastic prison⁴⁶³; above the doorway are two similar rooms, reached by stairs in a turret at the south-west angle, which lead also to the parapet, each containing a fireplace and lighted by two windows of two lights divided by transoms on the south, and one window on the east and west. In the angles between the cusps and the transoms of the lower windows were small shields—eight in all—on which no devices are now visible, if indeed they ever bore any. The side windows in the lower storey are of one light, while in the upper storey they are similar to the front.⁴⁶⁴

⁴⁶² The plan shows the mill with two wheels instead of one as at present.

⁴⁶³ Alluded to in the Visitation of 1478.

⁴⁶⁴ I may mention that Mr. Gwynne (F.S.A.) is of the opinion that the "Refectory" was the church—the "Calefactorium" being the chancel and the "Lavatory" a chapel—and the "Vaulted Room" the chapter-house.

In 1536 the Act for the suppression of the lesser monasteries was passed by a Parliament judiciously packed by the King, and by it all establishments possessing an income of less than £200 fell to the Crown. "Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure nineteen nineteen six, result happiness. Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure twenty pounds ought and six, result misery," said Mr. Micawber. "Annual income two hundred pounds, ought and six, result a great and solemn monastery wherein, thanks be to God, religion is right well kept and observed. Annual income one hundred and ninety nine nineteen six, result manifest sin, vicious and abominable living," said the suppressors. In order therefore to ascertain the relative wickedness of the monasteries throughout the land a general valuation had to be made—the "Valor Ecclesiasticus"—and Michelham Priory was so unfortunate as to miss virtue by £8. 0. 8. ! The following is the detailed account :

Priory of Michelham.

LAUGHTON: Lease of rectory with appurtenances in tenure of John Fawkenor, and yearly rent	106 ^s 8 ^d
ALFRYSTON: Lease of rectory with appurtenances, in tenure of John Bust, and yearly rent.....	16 ^s 13 ^s 4 ^d
FLECCHYNG: Lease of rectory with appurtenances, in tenure of John Gent, and yearly rent	106 ^s 8 ^d
ARLYNGTON, AYLESHAM, WESHAM, SUTTON, AND SEFFORD	
Issues from demesne land, viz. arable, meadows, grazing land and pasture in hands of the prior of Michelham for the use of his house, estimated by the commissioners to be worth yearly	25 ^s 11 ^s 0 ^d
MICHELHAM MANOR	
Profits of a watermill near the priory estimated at.....	53 ^s 3 ^d
Rent of certain tenements belonging to the manor.....	78 ^s 2 ^d
SHARNEFOLD AND DOWNASHE.	
Rent of certain tenements belonging to these manors....	10 ^s 9 ^s 7 ^d
HAYLESHAM AND HELYNGLYE.	
Lease of lands called Bere, Harmannyshay, Mauncell and others, in tenure of Robert Forster	53 ^s 4 ^d
Lease of lands called Shaldmershe and Fothermershe in tenure of John A Broke	20 ^s
Lease of land called Brodemershe in tenure of Alan Cokshatt	23 ^s

Lease of land called Dobbismershe in tenure of Simon Holbeme	26 ^s 8 ^d
Lease of land called Losemershe in tenure of William Kentysley	73 ^s 4 ^d
Lease of lands near Hurstbrige in tenure of John Holbeme	18 ^s 4 ^d
Lease of land called Crokerne in tenure of Robert Fowler	12 ^s
Lease of lands called Sebrands with 2 acres of land adjoining in tenure of Alan Cokshit.....	8 ^s
ARLYNGTON.	
Lease of lands called Kylbeck and Tanners in tenure of Alexander Parkar	3 ^s 6 ^d
Lease of land called Skyers in tenure of Simon Holbeme	60 ^s
Lease of a croft called Tanners at Blacklane in tenure of Edward Fete	2 ^s
Rent of a farm called Byrche in tenure of John Okynden	40 ^s
WESTHAM.	
Lease of land called Shernefold in tenure of Thomas Theccher	23 ^s 7 ^d
Lease of two parcels in Sharnefold and one in Dutton in tenure of John Nicholas	29 ^s
Rent of lands called Lame Lease, Pyckfeld and Panne in tenure of John Howall and John Wynswyst	66 ^s 8 ^d
Rent of land called Ditton in tenure of Edward Mychelgrove	13 ^s 4 ^d
Rent of similar parcel in Ditton in tenure of Robert Gyldrege	13 ^s 4 ^d
Lease of land called Boltacre in tenure of Edward Foote	6 ^s 8 ^d
Lease of land in Shernefold in tenure of the widow of John Colyngham	46 ^s 8 ^d
WYLLYNGDON	
Lease of lands called Michelham in tenure of Simon Affenell	40 ^s
PEVENSEY.	
Lease of land in the marsh at Manks for which should be paid	26 ^s 8 ^d
Lease of land there called Currey in tenure of Simon Holbeme	41 ^s 4 ^d
Lease of land called Reyland in tenure of William Theelond.....	43 ^s
Lease of land called Wrenham in tenure of Simon Holbeme	26 ^s 8 ^d
MAFELD	
Lease of the manor of Isenhurst with appurtenances, in tenure of Richard Lucke	100 ^s
Lease of a watermill in tenure of Baker	20 ^s

HERTFELD

Lease of land called Holewyche in tenure of John Sakvile Esq.....	32 ^s 8 ^d
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COWDEN

Lease of land in tenure of William Wykenden ⁴⁶⁵	14 ^s
Lease of the manor with appurtenances, in tenure of John Weykyng	60 ^s

BRIGHTHELMYSTON

Lease of lands and tenements in tenure of John Smyth alias Waterman.....	100 ^s
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SUTTON AND SEFFORD

Lease of lands forming part of the manor of Sutton in tenure of John Okynden	7 ² 0 ^s 0 ^d
Lease of other land being part of the same manor with appurtenances in tenure of John a Broke.....	6 ² 0 0
Lease of the manor of Chynting with appurtenances in tenure of Arthur Banyster and John Okynden	23 ² 11 ^s 8 ^d

YEVYNGTON

Lease of land called Broughton in tenure of John Wynswyst	55 ^s
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BORNE

Lease of lands in tenure of John Payne	3 ^s 8 ^d
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ARLINGTON AND HEYLESHAM

Lease of land called Highwallens in tenure of Robert Randall	26 ^s 8 ^d
Lease of land called Kell in tenure of John Okynden and Edward Foote	113 ^s 4 ^d
Lease of land called Knokheche in tenure of Stephen Mortymer	26 ^s 8 ^d
Lease of the tiled house in tenure of Edward Foote	26 ^s 8 ^d

Total value of spiritualities and
temporalities of the said abbey } £191 19 4

Deductions made in accordance with instructions.

ACCOUNT OF PAYMENTS.

To the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral Church of Chichester for lands in Pevensey Westham and Haylesham	106 ^s 8 ^d
To the Prior of Lewes for lands called Wallands	10 ^s 0 ^d
To the same in lieu of court service for the same lands	12 ^d
To the Abbot of Batell for lands called Calborowe in Helyngley at Flodgats	9 ^s 0 ^d
To the same abbot in lieu of court service at Alfryston	4 ^d

⁴⁶⁵ The land had been given to the Priory 300 years previously by one of the same family.

To the lord King for lands in Wyllingdon held as of the Duchy of Lancaster	35 ^s 1 ^d
To the same in lieu of court service	2 ^s
To the same lord King for the land called Deker belonging to the manor of Laghton	5½ ^d
To the said lord King for lands in Sutton parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster	16 ^d
To Thomas Duke of Norfolk for other lands in Sutton	2 ^s 8 ^d
To the Abbot of Robertsbrigge for other lands in Sutton ..	17 ^s 3 ^d
To the ⁴⁶⁶ Alderman of Fexborowe for rent called hundredth rent	11 ^d
To Lord de la Warre for lands called Fellonds in Fokynton	2 ^d
To the Prior of Lewes for the manor of Sutton	100 ^s
To the churchwardens of Westham for lands called Fellands in Fokynton	4 ^d
To Anthony Sands for land called Playeslond	2 ^s 8 ^d

PROCURAGES, INDEMNITIES AND PENSIONS.

To the Dean and Chapter of Chichester for procurage and indemnity of the churches of Fleccinge and Alfryston..	13 ^s 4 ^d
To the same for procurage arising from Alfryston aforesaid	26 ^s 8 ^d
To the Bishop of Chichester for indemnity of the churches of Fleccing and Alfryston	20 ^s
To the archdeacon for similar indemnities of the same churches	5 ^s
To the same for procurage of the church of Langton	7 ^s
To the same for procurage of the church of Alfryston	6 ^s 8 ^d
To the Prior of Lewes for pension from the same church of Alfryston	20 ^s
To the free chapel of Merysfeld for annual pension from lands called Sharnefeld in Westham	10 ^s
To the Bishop of Chichester for procurage of the said priory	6 ^s 2½ ^d

FEES OF THE STEWARD, RECEIVER, AUDITOR AND BAILIFF.

To Master Thomas Crumwell secretary of state to the lord King, steward of the manors lands and tenements of the said priory	40 ^s
To Giles Fynes Esquire, under steward of the manor of Mychelham	26 ^s 8 ^d
To Richard Sackville gentleman, steward of the manors of Cowden and Holenwyshe	26 ^s 8 ^d
To Thomas Pelham, receiver-general of all the manors, lands and tenements of the said abbey, for his yearly fee together with 6 ^s for his privileges (<i>libertate</i>)	37 ^s 8 ^d

⁴⁶⁶ A term peculiar to Sussex, apparently equivalent to Constable.

To Thomas Darell, auditor of the same priory.....	26 ^s 8 ^d
To Edward Foote, bailiff of all the lands &c of the said abbey, for his yearly fee together with 11 ^s for his privileges	64 ^s 4 ^d
Total of the said deductions	£31 6 9
And so the clear value is	£160 12 6
Tithes thereof	£16 0 15

The suppression of Michelham having thus been determined commissioners were sent down to report on the value of the plunder that would accrue to the Crown from this and other Sussex priories, their report being embodied in the following "Brief Certificate:"⁴⁶⁷

The Pryorye of Mychelham: black channons of the order of Sanct Augustin.

The Cleir yerely value at the first survey—cxliⁱⁱ xij^s vj^d.

The Cleir yerely value of the same house at this new survey—clxiiijⁱⁱ xiiij^s vj^d with lxij^s of increase viz. the demaynes ijⁱⁱ.

Religious parsons ix—whereof preestes viij novises j, Inconts. none all desiring capacities.⁴⁶⁸

Servntts xxix—whereof wayting servtes xvij—hynds xj.

Bells leade and other beyloings to be sold by estimacon xxxⁱⁱ—the housse in good estate.

The entier value of the moveable goods lvⁱⁱ xiiij^s iiij^d. In stores w^t fermors ijⁱⁱ—debtte owing to the same house ixⁱⁱ xv^s ij^d.

Woodes there iiij^{xx} acres all above xx yeres age at xiiij^s iiij^d the acre liijⁱⁱ vj^s viij^d—comun for fourty beestes. parks—none.

Debt owing by the same house as appearith pticularly by a booke thereof made remayning w^t the comyshenors—xxvjⁱⁱ ix^s j^d.

The work of destroying all the buildings connected with that religion whose purity the suppressors claimed to be vindicating, and of converting every marketable object into money was rapidly proceeded with, and in 1537 John Mores, "one of the commissioners for the dissolution and suppression of certain monasteries," drew up the subjoined account:⁴⁶⁹

Priory of Michelham.

JEWELS AND SILVER VESSELS:—The value of 203 ounces of silver obtained from the jewels and silver vessels of

⁴⁶⁷ Exch. Q. R. Miscellanea, 833.

⁴⁶⁸ *i.e.*, all were willing to accept ecclesiastical benefices.

⁴⁶⁹ Transcripts of the Ministers' Accounts relating to seven Sussex Monasteries have been made for the Sussex Archaeological Society, to the courtesy of whose Secretary I am indebted for this inventory.

the said late Priory; viz. pure silver 94 oz. worth 3^s 4^d an ounce, silver parcel-gilt 34 oz. worth 3^s 8^d an ounce, and silver gilt 75 oz. worth 4^s 0^½^d; paid into the Treasury of the Court of Augmentation of the Crown Revenues, for the use of the Lord King £27 0 14½

CHURCH ORNAMENTS:—The value of all the ornaments of the church including pictures and stones called Paunystones and other things in the said church sold to divers persons £15 13 2

HOUSEHOLD GOODS:—The value of all the moveable goods of the household (*hospicii*) similarly sold to divers, excepting the beds of the Prior and Convent which were given them by the King's Commissioners of the King's charity £7 18 2

GRAIN:—The value of all kinds of grain—nothing—because none was found in their barns nor on their lands.

MISCELLANEOUS CHATTELS:—The value of all kinds of chattels of the moveable goods of the said late priory sold to Anthony Pelham £68 5 0

LEAD:—The value of 13 wagon-loads and 1500^{lbs} of lead found there by the Commissioners and by them handed over to Anthony Pelham and John Fawkenor to be kept safe for the use of the King,—nothing—because it still remains for the King's use.

BELLS:—The value of five Bells weighing 40 cwt. sold by the Commissioners to ⁴⁷⁰Ipyngbury at 13^s 4^d the cwt. ... £26 13 4

BUILDINGS, &c.:—The value of divers buildings sold to divers persons £16 9 3

Total £162 0 0½

Payments—Mychelham

Paid to eight Canons there of the King's charity for their salaries for one quarter £13 13 4

Paid to servants of the said Priory for their wages for one quarter ending at the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, in the 28th year of the King's reign .. £23 17 4

Paid to divers Creditors of the said Monastery in full payment of all debts owed them by the late prior and convent £24 15 1

Total £63 5 9

Having thus squeezed the Priory dry and extracted all available money therefrom, the King flung the remains to his faithful jackal, Thomas Lord Cromwell:

⁴⁷⁰ At the end of the accounts is a note that John *Ettonbury* of Maidstone, brasier, still owes £20 on bells sold to him by the commissioners.

⁴⁷¹ Thomas Crumwell K.G., lord Crumwell, the King's chief Secretary, and keeper of the Privy Seal.

Grant in fee of the house and site of the suppressed priory of Michilham, Sussex; the church &c.; a watermill near the same, the lordships and manors of Michelham, Sharnefold, Downeaysshe, Haylisham, Helyngly, Otham, Willyngdowne, ⁴⁷² Janynge, Arlyngton, Westham, Isenherst, Cowden, Sutton, Seeford, and Chyntyng, Sussex belonging to the said priory: the rectories of the churches of Laughton, Alfriston and Fletchyng, Sussex, and the advowsons of the parish churches and vicarages thereof; a pasture called "le Marles," another pasture called Gordhoppe; the lands called Bramley, Gawygrove, and Knothatch, a grove of woods containing 30 acres, the lands called "Bakehouse Feld," and Hogbroke, a pasture called "Holsham lond," a marsh called Laney's mershe, a meadow called Home mershe, a piece of land called Longsawts, and another near the lands of Hen. Sawte, pieces of land called Pitfield and Marlyngs, a pasture called Wide-land, pieces of land called ⁴⁷³ Chesehouse Mershe, Fortene acres, ⁴⁷⁴ Warwysshe, Olde Courte, le Whysshe, Bulloks felde, Cowelees, Pekkesfeld, and Fellonds, and the land called Olde Parke; all which lie in Mychelham, Arlyngton, Haylesham, Westham, Sutton and Seeford, Sussex.

Also all lands &c called Bere, Harmanshay, Reuers, Maunsellys, Shaldemarshe, Frothermarshe, Brodemershe, Dobbismarshe, Losemarshe, Hurstbrige, Crokerne and Sebrands in Haylisham and Helyngly; the two parcels of land called Kilbroke and Tanners in Arlyngton; all lands and tenements called Skyers in Arlyngton and a croft of land there called Tanners lying at Blake lane; all messuages lands &c called Byrche in Arlyngton; a parcel of land called Sharnefold in Westham; two parcels of land there in Sharnefold and Dutton, and all messuages lands &c called Lane Lease, Pikfeld, and Panne in Westham; all messuages lands &c called Ditton in Westham in the tenure of Edw. Michilgrove and Rob. Gildredge; all messuages &c called Bolteacres in Westham; and Michilham in Willyngdone, Sussex; the watermill in Mafeld; all lands and tenements called Holewyche in Hartefeld, Sussex; all messuages &c called Broughton in Yevington, Sussex; all messuages &c called Highwallons, Kell, and Knokhatch in Arlyngton and Haylisham, and a tile covered house there; and all other manors &c in the vills &c of Michelham, Laughton, Alfriston, Fletchyng, Arlyngton, Haylisham, Westham, Sutton, Seeford, Sharnefold, Downeaysshe, Helyngly, Otham, Willyngdon, Jauyng, Pemsey, Isenherst, Mafeld, Hertfeld, Cowden, Brighthelmyston, Chyntyng, Yevington and Estbourne, Sussex, and elsewhere belonging to the said

⁴⁷¹ Pat. 29^o Henry VIII., p. 1, m. 23 [*Cal.*].

⁴⁷² Probably meant for Jevington.

⁴⁷³ This occurs (Lewes Castle Deeds, 28, 29) in 1617 under the probably original form of "50 acres of fresh marsh called Jesus marsh;" in 1622 Sir Edward Burton held of the manor of Radmell-Beverington "land called Jesus land" in Eastbourne, no doubt connected with the "fraternity of Jesus" in Eastbourne church ("S.A.C.," Vol. XLII.), and possibly the Hailsham lands had a similar connection.

⁴⁷⁴ Possibly "Warwick Lane."

late priory, in as full manner as Thomas Holbeme, the late prior, held the same.

Annual value £171 - 4 - 4½ Rent £71 - 4 - 4½.

Westm: 1 Oct: 29^o Henry VIII.

On Crumwell's meeting the fate he so well deserved the Michelham estates reverted to the Crown and were disposed of as follows: ⁴⁷⁵The Lady Anne of Cleves received a grant for life of a pension of £24 issuing from lands in the Barony of Lewes, late belonging to the Priors of Lewes and Michelham (she is said by tradition to have lived in the picturesque old "Porched House" in Southover) and the Manor of Brighton-Michelham (subsequently granted by Queen Elizabeth to Lord Buckhurst), the estate of Broughton in Jevington and the rectories and the advowsons of Alfriston, Fletching and Laughton. In connection with the latter we have the following note:

⁴⁷⁶The Dean and Chapter of Chichester have received a yearly pension of 26^s 8^d out of the parsonage and parish church of Alfriston and 13^s 4^d for indemnities out of the same parsonage and out of the church and parsonage of Fletching belonging to the late priory of Michelham; which sums they received of the priors and of Thomas Crumwell late Earl of Essex: on Crumwell's attainder the King assigned these sums to Lady Anne of Cleves, retaining half the pensions: the Court decree that the Dean and Chapter shall receive 20^s being half of the pensions and after Lady Anne's death shall also receive the other half.

⁴⁷⁵Thomas Culpeper, gentleman of the Privy Chamber, obtained a lease for 21 years at £17. 3s. 4d. of certain parcels of the Manors of Michelham, Parkgate, Sharnefold, Downeashe and Isenhurst. The Manor of Chinting was granted to Sir Anthony Browne, and in 1591 Viscount Mountague died seised of that manor, valued at £17. 13s. 0d., held of Mr. Parker as of his Manor of Jevington. ⁴⁷⁷The greater part of the property, however, passed into the hands of William Earl of Arundel in part exchange for certain manors in West Sussex to which the King had taken a fancy; ⁴⁷⁸the grant included—the Manor of

⁴⁷⁵ "Letters and Papers of Henry VIII.," Vol. XVI.

⁴⁷⁶ Aug. Off. Misc. Books, 106 [*Cal.*].

⁴⁷⁷ Add. MSS., 5,681.

⁴⁷⁸ Pat., 33^o Henry VIII., p. 1. [*Cal.*].

Michelham Parkgate with demesne land, a mill, a brew-house and 160 loads of wood to be taken yearly from the wood of Michelham Parkgate in the tenure of John Foote, on which a reserve rent of £4. 19s. 9d. was put, and the Manors of Sharnefolde at 43s. 11½d., Downeashe at 77s. 6d., Holwiche 4s., Cowdeane 4s. This grant also includes certain "tenements called Michelham Sextery Lands" (lands assigned to the sacrist, or sexton, of the Priory) in Hellingly, Willingdon, Jevington and Hailsham;⁴⁷⁹ and in 1557 Thomas Sackville obtained lands in Wannok called Sextrie land, and in 1612⁴⁸⁰ Richard Earl of Dorset had tenements called Sextrie Lands in Hellingly, Willingdon, Wannocke, Jevington and Downash; Thomas Bodle, in his will of 1570, mentions "ye Sextens crofte that I holde of my L^a Bouckherst," and the eighteenth century court book of Pevensey Hundred mentions land called Saxtry, apparently near Rickney.

⁴⁸¹In 1546 an Act was passed for the annexation to the Duchy of Lancaster of "the Vaccary in the forest of Ashdown, late parcel of the dissolved monastery of Michelham." Another reference to the forest occurs in 1610 in an inquisition concerning the rights and customs of the Forest of Ashdowne: "Fletching Manor—The Parson of Maresfield is to have Herbage for 31 Kine and 2 Bulls within the Forest, whereof 15 are to be pastured on the side of the Forest and the other 16 to be pastured where the late Prior of Michelham used to pasture his cattle."

Henry Earl of Arundel in 1554 exchanged the estate to Queen Mary. The descent of the Manor of Downash has already been traced; another important possession of the Priory, the Manor of Isenhurst, had been granted to Richard Sackville previous to 1547, as in that year he alienated it to⁴⁸² John Baker, of Mayfield, in whose family it remained till about 1780, when Rev. John Kirby held it; it afterwards passed by purchase to the family of

⁴⁷⁹ Pat., 3^o and 4^o Ph. and Mary, p. 9 [*Cal.*].

⁴⁸⁰ Pat., 9^o Jas. I., p. 33 [*Cal.*].

⁴⁸¹ Hardy, "Duchy of Lancaster Charters."

⁴⁸² Add. MSS., 5,681.

Treherne, in whose hands it still is. We shall now be concerned only with the Manor of Michelham Parkgate.

⁴⁸³ In 1556 the King and Queen sold for £1,249. 16s. 10½d. the site of the Priory of Michelham with its appurtenances to John Foote and his heirs and John Roberts. ⁴⁸⁴ In 1567 John Pelham claimed, as a descendant of Sir John Pelham and Joan his wife, who were enfeoffed of the Manor of Laughton in 7^o Henry VI. by Laurence Stafford and John Bachelor, clerks, then seised thereof, certain waste lands of the Diker, now claimed by Anthony Smythe and John Foote; Smythe produces an Indenture of 8 July 8^o Eliz. granting him 450 acres of the Diker as part of the Queen's Honor of the Egle; and Foote says that he is seised in demesne of the site of the late Priory of Michelham and of the Manor and Hundred of Michelham Parkegate, which includes 80 acres on the Diker. This Anthony Smythe was probably father of the ⁴⁸⁵ Ambrose Smythe to whom John Fote, senior, alienated the manor in 1574 and who ten years later granted to John Morley and Elizabeth his wife "the Manor of Michelham Parkgate with 50 messuages, 20 cottages, 4 mills, 2 pigeon houses, 60 gardens, 60 orchards, 100 acres of land, 200 acres of meadow, 100 acres of pasture, 200 acres of wood, 400 acres of furze and brushwood and 100^s of rent." ⁴⁸⁶ In 1587 Morley granted to Herbert Pelham, of Hellingly, esquire, "the site of Michelham Priory (within the moat 7½ acres 32 perches) with 767 acres of land and the manor and messuages, excepting Wannock, Shaldmershe, le Tylehouse land, Knockhatch and Lowe Wall amounting to 220 acres and certain lands already alienated to Thomas Selwyn, Robert Sackville and Thomas Tyndall." The lands mentioned as alienated to Selwyn were "land in Haylysham called Tylehouse Cane alias Tylehost alias Colebrough containing 80 acres parcel of the Manor of Michelham Parkgate," granted to him in 1557. ⁴⁸⁷

That Herbert Pelham made Michelham his residence is shown by a pamphlet on "Herbert Pelham, his

⁴⁸³ Memoranda, 7^o Jas. I., Trin. 3.

⁴⁸⁵ Add. MSS., 5,705.

⁴⁸⁴ Duchy of Lancaster Pleadings, 77, P. 10.

⁴⁸⁶ "S.A.C.," Vol. VI.

⁴⁸⁷ Pat., 3^o and 4^o Ph. and Mary, p. 8 [Cal.].

Ancestors and Descendants," by Dr. J. L. Chester, which mentions, amongst the children of his second wife, Elizabeth West, eldest daughter of Thomas Lord de la Warr, "a daughter born at Michelham 25 March 1595," who died in infancy, and Anthony Pelham, born at Michelham 5 March, 1600, who became incumbent of Fordington in Dorset, where he died in 1659.⁴⁸⁸ In 1599 Herbert Pelham "made over his whole interest in the estate to Thomas Pelham of Laughton, James Thatcher of Priest-hawes (brother of his first wife) and Thomas Peirse of Hastings, in trust to sell the same and out of the proceeds reserve an annuity of £400 during his life for the maintenance of himself and his family, the residue to be applied to the discharge of his debts. Accordingly on 6 April, 1601, the property was sold to the Lord Treasurer Buckhurst for £4,700, and continued in the Sackville family, passing after the death of the third Duke of Dorset in 1825 by marriage to William Pitt Earl Amherst, till 1897, when the estate was acquired by J. E. A. Gwynne, Esq., of Folkington Manor, and the Lordship of the Manor was purchased by Horatio Bottomley, Esq., of Upper Dicker.

⁴⁸⁹ The Court Rolls commence in 1691, when Charles Earl of Dorset was Lord of the Manor and Thomas Medley, gent., was steward. The rolls refer to property in Hailsham, Arlington and Hellingly; I shall confine myself almost entirely to extracts relating to land in Hailsham. The custom of "Borough English" obtained in this manor, as is shown by an entry of the year 1759: "Samuel Dodson youngest son and heir according to the custom of the manor of Sarah Dodson deceased prays admission to a newly erected cottage at the lower end of the fair place on the Diccar;" and other similar entries. The "fair place" here mentioned is the part now known as Upper Dicker and probably derives its title, not from the beauty of its situation, but, as at Otham, from a fair having been held there; the name occurs frequently on

⁴⁸⁸ "S.A.C.," Vol. VI.

⁴⁸⁹ Penes Messrs. Glaisyer & Sons, St. James' Street, S.W.

the rolls, as in 1691, Richard Muggridge surrenders for the use of William Smith, of Arlington, blacksmith, a tenement "at the upper part of the diccar near the Diccar Faireplace," which in 1697 Smith surrenders for the use of Richard Pilbeame, of Chiddingly, mercer. One of the first entries for 1691 is the grant to Robert Richardson of "half an acre of land on the South Comon in Hailsham, with the windmill built thereon, late Stonestreetes formerly Hyland and Reinolds and once Pooles, held at a rent of 12^a," which in 1697 he alienated to Nicholas Seavenoakes (or Sennocke) of Hailsham, who the same year surrenders it for the use of Francis Botting; the mill subsequently passed through the hands of Thomas Colbrand, William Coombes of Seaford, John Combes (10 years old in 1703) and William Combes in 1711, after which it was apparently pulled down, as in 1735 the land is described in a grant to Joseph Gryer of Hailsham, husbandman, as "half an acre of land on which a windmill formerly stood;" Gryer alienated it in 1737 to Richard Beartup, labourer, who alienated it to Edmund Edes in 1742.

Other entries which I have considered worth transcribing are the following: 1691, Wardship of James Knight, aged 5, who holds a cottage on the lower part of the South Common, late Bakers, granted to James Oxley, who had married Margery Baker, elder cousin of James Knight; Peter Bodle died seised of a messuage, a barn and a piece of land called Dess's, alias Holborne Hill, containing 3 acres at the lower end of the South Common—this was held by Edward Bodle in 1717 and alienated in 1741 by John Holman to William Roust, whose youngest son and heir Robert succeeded him in 1762. 1692, John Lopdell of Lewes held a barn and 5 acres called Bridgefield at Horsebridge; William Chapman died seised of a tenement and croft containing one acre at the Pool near Hailsham Town, late Symons, now in tenure of Mathew Wakelin—held in 1740 by John Tutt. 1693, Peter Bodle died, he held a cottage on Hailsham Common, late of Thomas his father, Elizabeth his only daughter aged 7; William Hamblin

alienated a croft called Potters, late Kenchleys of Ambroses, to Edward Ede; Samuel Eliot of Herstmonceux, a cottage and garden at "le Stoneylane end" in Hailsham, late Martins; John Bodle, lands called Profits, containing 14 acres at Moorbrook, late Elphicks, formerly Akehersts and once Stokers. 1696, death of John Foot presented, he held a messuage "near the Park at the Diccar." 1698, "third proclamation that claim should be made for a cottage and an acre of land at Harbetting greene in Haylsham late of John Jennings and formerly Willerds of which Mary the wife of William Younge of Wadhurst lately died seised; and then came to the court Mary Younge only daughter and heir of the said Mary, aged 4, *in propria persona* and desired to be admitted thereto . . . seisin was granted by the rod;" Jerdinius Tompkin alienated to Nathaniel Pollington a tenement late Pardons and formerly Clarks. 1702, George Cryer surrenders to Thomas Browning and Oliver Mills a cottage on the South Common, on condition that if he pay them "at the South Porch of the parish church of Hailsham" £12 before March 25 next the surrender shall be of no effect. 1703, Thomas Browning died, he devised to Sarah his daughter, aged 10, a tenement with an orchard, late Pardons and before Clarks, to Susan his younger daughter $1\frac{1}{2}$ acre of land called Cotton Rowe near Hailsham Common, and to Elizabeth his eldest daughter another $1\frac{1}{2}$ acre called the Corner Crofte on the Common, John Browning their uncle paid Relief for them. 1708, Richard Norton surrenders a cottage and garden on the Lane from Milton Hide to Hailsham Common, late of William Verrall his uncle, formerly Edboroughs and once Augers, for the use of John Funnell; Richard Pettibone surrenders a ⁴⁹⁰blacksmith's forge, stable and land at Horsebridge to the use of John Pilcher of Hellingly. 1709, John Miller and Mary his wife, daughter of Richard Fennell, alienate to Anthony Trumble, gent., a messuage, stable, orchard and land, in the south part of the town of Hailsham. 1713, John Browning, three acres called

⁴⁹⁰ The forge is still working.

Butterwedges, late Thomas Brownings, formerly Renns and Thomas, and 20 acres called Hothlands, near Natewood in Hailsham, formerly Butchers and once Fennells; Licence to William Snatt to cut down one oak on the land of William Chapman, tenant of the manor, a minor.

The Rent Roll of the Duke of Dorset from 1718 to 1720, compiled by his steward, Mr. Medley, is printed in "S.A.C.," Vol. XXXIX., and includes the manor of Mitchelham:

	Rent Due.	Rent Received.	Taxes Allowed.
Of the Baylift for the Rents of Assize of the s ^d Mannor per ann. v ^{lb} v ^d for 2 years	10 0 10	8 10 10	1 10 0
Of John Walker for the Capital Messuage and part of the demesnes p. ann cXL ^{lb} for the like	280 0 0	241 0 0	39 0 0
Of Walter Jeffery vice Mephram for the Mill and part of the Demesnes p. Ann xxx ^{lb} for the like	60 0 0	51 6 0	8 14 0
Of Mr Medley vice Boyes for other part thereof p. Ann x ^{lb} for the like	20 0 0	17 0 0	3 0 0
Of Henry Hasting vice Sansum for other part thereof called the Parkland p. Ann. xxiiij ^{lb} for the like	48 0 0	40 10 0	7 10 0
Of Thomas Ade vice Sansum for other part thereof called the Fulling Mill p. Ann. xvj ^{lb} for the like	32 0 0	28 2 0	3 18 0
Of Henry Hasting vice Sansum for other part thereof called Godhope p. Ann xiv ^{lb} for the like	28 0 0	24 2 0	3 18 0
Of William Gosden for part thereof p. Ann. v ^{lb} for the like	10 0 0	8 10 0	1 10 0
Paid John Walker for Seizing a Heriot due to Mannor of Michelham Park Gate on death of Richard Foot			4 ^s 0 ^d
Paid Wm. Gosden wh. he paid for cutting of 40 cord of wood sold out of the Mill Wood at Michelham 1718-19 at xvi ^d p. cord—ij ^{ll} xiiij. iiij. More for making 3850 faggots at xxiij ^d p. hundred iiij. x. vij. More for cleaving a cord of Stumblet wood iiij ^s . More for expenses when the wood and faggots were tailed v ^s j ^d . In all.....			6 12 0

More paid him for one years salary for looking after Michelham Woods, due at Mich. 1719	3	0	0
More paid him for cutting 40 cord of wood sold out of the Bramble Grove Wood at Michelham 1719-20 [and for making 3850 faggots, cleaving Stumblet wood, and salary for 1720]	9	9	11

We now return to the Court Rolls. 1719, Alexander Hicks died; he held three parcels of land called Averys, containing eight acres adjoining the demesne lands of Otham Manor, late of John Meere, gent. 1732, Samuel Calverley, gent., was steward. 1739, two presentments are made; Thomas Elman has enclosed half an acre of the Waste belonging to the Lord of the Manor on the north-east portion of Hailsham Common,—let it be laid open on penalty of 40s.; William Sargent and John Caly have dug up the soil on the south of the Common and erected a Brick Kiln on the Lord's Waste,—let the kiln be removed under penalty of 40s. 1743, Spencer Earl of Wilmington held Merryfields in Hailsham, late Lumleys. 1756, John Fuller, Esq., held a messuage called Boreship, late Doctor Thomas Fuller's.

In 1852 the waste lands of the manor were enclosed, all freeholders receiving an allotment, in proportion to the value of their holding. With this date I bring my notice of the manor of Michelham Park Gate to a conclusion.

APPENDIX I.

MARRIAGES, 1558—1600.

1558.

Richard Ellyate and Elizabeth Packham	7 May.
Thomas Death and Alice Unsty, widow	10 July.
Thomas Byshopp and Alice Hoad	16 July.
Christopher Dicksons and Elizabeth Shepherd	14 Aug.
Robert Bush and Annis Ackherst	28 Aug.
Richard Rolffe and Joane Baker	20 Oct.

1558⁸/₉.

William Roster and Parnell Rede	21 Jan ^y .
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1559.

Thomas Kyngswyll and Elizabeth Gower	28 May.
Richard Kenchsly and Elizabeth Jurye	27 July.
Thomas Stoeke and Elizabeth Edwards, widow	21 Aug.
John Marten and Annis Kenchslye, widow	1 Oct.
Robert Collyer and Margaret Swayne	30 Oct.

1560.

William Kenchslye and Tomzyne Taylor, widow	26 May.
William Bayes and Elizabeth Bromeham	16 June.
Thomas Frytter and Margaret Harward	14 July.
Arnould Harbart and Mildred Tharpe	29 July.
William Dunstone and Margaret Wynter	22 Dec.

1560⁹/₁.

Thomas Bodell and Alice Kenchsly	26 Jan ^y .
Thomas Hunt and Catherine Smyth	17 Feb ^y .

1561.

George Colbourne and Annis Branden	27 April.
Mathew Treglas and Alice Swane	4 May.
Nicholas Foster and Annis Luck	9 June.
John Motte and Annis Crowch	30 June.
John Wyllard and Joane Hunt	7 Sept.
Thomas Gardiner and Anne Roberts	18 Sept.
Henry Foster and Margaret Barnden	2 Nov.
Richard Waterhouse and Joane Tutt	16 Nov.
John Randall and Dorothy Laude	23 Nov.
Chrystoner Wygsell and Joan Gubbard	30 Nov.

1562.

William Foster and Annis Mills	23 May.
William Raynold and Joan Greene	18 Oct.
Richard Rolffe and Mary Heglett	29 Oct.

1563.

Thomas Bromeham and Dorothy Rolffe	23 May.
James Rolffe and Joan Gutsall	13 July.
George Hyron and Annis Bystodde	27 Sept.
William Darrell and Alice Newall	5 Oct.
John Pyleher and Joan Wygssyl	7 Oct.
Giles Trederoste and Elynore Kyrren	29 Oct.

1563¹/₄.

William Cowper and Dennis Greene	13 Jan ^y .
George Rolfe and Jane Carter	27 Jan ^y .
John Dyne and Catherine Sale	6 Feb ^y .

1564.

William Watsons and Parnell Furnes	30 April.
Edmund Grenefyld and Alice Esterfyld	10 Aug.
John Styler and Mary Kyrren	9 Oct.
John Esterfyld and Annis Mydmoore	9 Oct.
John Gardiner and Joan Gynner	20 Nov.

1564¹/₂.

John Jackeman and Alice Hart	13 Feb ^y .
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1565.

Symon Gaskyne and Phillipp Tysehurst	17 June.
John Howell and Constance Snowe	1 July.
Robert Mylls and Dorothy Kenchslve	8 July.
James Gaskyne and Mary Braye	9 Aug.
Thomas Carpenter and Mary Moore	21 Aug.
John Allen and Maryan Harmer	23 Aug.
George Cockshott and Joane Beche	16 Sept.
Thomas Tyrrell and Elizabeth Wickins	23 Sept.
William Skynner and Joan Pryor	30 Sept.
Robert Chamber and Alice Grenefeld	15 Oct.
John Frytter and Elizabeth Rydely	29 Nov.
Garett Johnson and Ellyne Newall	3 Dec.
John Rauffe and Jane Watson	17 Dec.

1566.

Anthony Caute and Elizabeth Standen	22 April.
John Barnes and Elizabeth Newall	29 April.
Chrystoner Wells and Mary Lingham	16 Sept.
Thomas Fry and Anne French	3 Nov.
Richard Lymmys and Joane Jacksone	18 Nov.

1567.

John Swane and Margaret Clemens	29 April.
John Pyleher and Margaret Hart	13 July.
James Foxe and Margaret Cutberd	21 Sept.
Robert Collyer and Joan Hemson	26 Oct.

1567¹/₂.

John Symons and Annis Drew	18 Jan ^y .
Leonard Becke and Margery Cobb	22 Jan ^y .
Thomas Drew and Elizabeth Rabbed	12 Feb ^y .

1568.

William Barden and Faith Foxe	2 May.
John Adams and Joan Twysden	30 May.
Christoner Bowell and Annis Hyron	11 Oct.
Hugh Wyneswyth and Elizabeth Tanner	11 Nov.

1569.

Edmund Quester and Betteris Tharpe	6 June.
Allyne Wickins and Joan Esterfild	20 June.
Nicholas Thecher and Sara Marten	30 Sept.

1570.

Allen Wickins and Annis Barnden	2 July.
Symon Tutt and Anne Hayward	16 July.
John Putland and Elizabeth Bodell	26 Sept.
John Lewes and Joan Beaden	2 Oct.
Mathew Treglas and Jane Bodell	5 Nov.

1570^o.

Nicholas Motte and Mary Wells	11 Jan ^y .
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1571.

Thomas Cosyne and Elizabeth Bodle	5 July.
Ned Spynner and Alice Foxe	8 July.
Anthony Harmer and Joan Mersall	15 July.
John Knight and Joan Sage	3 Sept.
Thomas Harmer and Margery Smyth	25 Nov.
John Cantall and Jane Harmer	1 Dec.

1572.

Thomas Twysden and Phinis Bennett	6 July.
John Motte and Elizabeth Swayne	11 Sept.
Peter Wells and Margery Rolffe	21 Sept.

1573.

William Snayle and Elizabeth Esterfield	16 April.
John Unyon and Annis Wyddett	25 April.
William Funell and Helen Harmer	14 June.
Henry Walcocke and Alice Mersall	20 June.
Thomas Shoosmyth and Mary Wickins	16 July.
Edmund Swane and Mary Cosyn	6 Aug.
John Putland and Elizabeth Cosyne	26 Aug.
Robert Swane and Wynyfyryth Hoade	21 Sept.
Thomas Fuller and Joan Turle	24 Sept.
Henry Hamlen and Constance Swane	12 Nov.

1574.

John Renn and Alice Gyllan	19 Apr.
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1575.

John Robins and Margery Moore	16 June.
Thomas Kenchsly and Annis Marten	16 June.
Nicholas Harmer and Joan Gynner	25 Sept.
Nicholas Goodson and Alice Ellis	27 Sept.
John Goddins and Emlen Swane	16 Oct.

Henry Nerton and Annis Fennell 17 Oct.
Leonard Raynold and Marian Phillip 18 Nov.

157 $\frac{5}{8}$.

John Boniface and Tomsyne Collyar 15 Jan^y.
Simon Gaskyn and Jane Treglas 26 Jan^y.
John Berry and Annis Kenchslly 18 Feb^y.

1576.

Robert Sharpe and Margaret Lunsford 13 Sep.
John Ferrell and Annis Hoade 14 Oct.
Thomas Bodell and Alice Chapman 21 Oct.

157 $\frac{7}{8}$.

George Skynner and Alice Cowper.....

1577.

John Rolfe and Avis Caulfield 6 May.
Thomas Pyme and Joan Harmer 2 June.
Thomas Tyrrell and Elizabeth Colvyll 20 June.
Thomas Hoade and Elizabeth Marten 5 Aug.
Simon Williams and Ursula Smyth 30 Nov.

1578.

Laurance Swane and Dorothy Randell 8 Sept.
William Unstey and Annis Fraye 21 Sept.
William Brayban and Jane Rolfe 5 Oct.
Robert Curtes and Annis Motte 28 Oct.
James Newall and Alice Banister 29 Nov.

157 $\frac{8}{9}$.

Thomas Harmer and Mary Smyth..... 9 Feb^y.

1579.

Robert Standen and Constance Kenchslly 2 Aug.
John Love and Elizabeth Terrell 12 Oct.
George Willard and Parnell Garrett 8 Nov.

157 $\frac{9}{10}$.

John Earle and Magdalen Edwards 26 Jan^y.
Henry Sampton and Alice Ades 28 Jan^y.
Thomas Twysden and Alice Swane..... 28 Jan^y.

1580.

John Mersall and Mercy Gloavre 23 April.
John Wood and Joan Hollybone 3 May.
Cawen Florence and Joan Seld 30 May.
Thomas Thorntone and Parnell Fotte 30 May.
John Nycholsone and Joan Dyne 13 June.
Abraham Clistone and Constance Twisden 19 June.
Fellex Willard and Joan Bowdell 25 Sept.
John Luckson and Mary Dennett 3 Nov.
William Barnden and Margery Robyns 26 Nov.

158 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Thomas Terlling and Mary Swane..... 30 Jan^y.

1581.

Richard Hamlyne and Joane Mott	6 Apr.
John Gower and Myldred White	26 May.
Frances Gates and Julyan Hamellton	10 Aug.
Nicholas Whyte and Margery Bullard	19 Oct.
Richard Bevis and Annis Rucke	21 Nov.
Thomas Waran and Margaret Pylehe	25 Nov.
Robert Ellyate and Annis Colbourne	25 Nov.

1582.

Richard Austen and Anne Newall	26 April.
Edward Lullam and Anne Sheppard	30 April.
Richard Dygbye and Elizabeth Collyingham	16 May.
Humfrye Hussye and Emlen Goddyns	10 June.
Jervis Austen and Austen (<i>sic</i>)	2 July.
Mathew Colborne and Joan Hunt	9 July.
Thomas Hogges and Elizabeth Russell	12 Aug.
Arnowl'd Harbart and Martha Swane	6 Oct.
Richard Bodell and Margaret Robinson	16 Dec.

1583.

Abraham Cowper and Alice Vennell	4 May.
John Thorncraste and Margaret Swane	17 June.
Thomas Swane and Alice Weche	29 July.
John Cruse and Constance Baker	5 Sept.
Thomas Twysden and Bennett Carter	14 Oct.
William Burgis and Joan Adams	18 Nov.

1583 $\frac{3}{4}$.

Allen Wickins and Alice Sampton	10 Feb ^y .
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1584.

Thomas Fayerway and Susan Daltone	24 June.
Lawrence Weecks and Katherin Beeding	5 Oct.
Robert Painter and Joan Hamlen	30 Oct.
William Clark and Elizabeth Pylcher	15 Nov.
John Woolfe and Agnes Ackers	23 Nov.

1584 $\frac{4}{5}$.

Clement Bevis and Dennis Cowper	10 Jan ^y .
Nicholas Coppunt and Elizabeth Moore	8 Feb ^y .
George Waterman and Annis Willard	23 Mar.

1585.

John Kyngswell and Joan Terrell	6 May.
George Willard and Annis Moore	7 June.
Thomas Bunting and Katherin Gilham	10 June.
Barnaba Turcke and Sara Bodell	2 Aug.
Thomas A'Brooke and Constance Widdett	8 Aug.
Nicholas White and Alice Skynner	29 Aug.
William Tyttye and A'Gates	21 Oct.
Robert Tutt and Joan Kyngswell	11 Nov.

Ralffe Bullyn and Margary Barnden.....	15 Nov.
Nicholas Bodell and Ellnor Stydell	21 Nov.

158 $\frac{5}{8}$.

Thomas Benjamyne and Jane Tomsett	10 Jan ^y .
John Baker and Brydgett Hēsyē.....	14 Feb ^y .

1586.

William Pollard and Alice Thomas	13 June.
William Unstye and Phebe Fayerway.....	14 June.
John Hobbye and Katherin Bartholmew	23 June.
William Taylor and Alice Dyne	24 July.
Frances Heath and Catherine Drew	4 Sept.
William Stowell and Joan Willard.....	11 Sept.
Richard Parker and Elizabeth Virgo.....	28 Oct.
George Clements and Alice Drew	31 Oct.
John Thomas and Margery Isted	24 Nov.

1587.

Mathew Tayllor and Joan Ackhurst	24 April.
Thomas Warham and Elizabeth Clark	6 June.
Abraham Esterfild and Myldered Swane	29 June.
Nicholas Wilford and Annis Marshall	26 July.
Peter Branche and Finis Glenner.....	10 Aug.
John Mychelborne and Annis Howell	2 Nov.
William Hollands and Constance Bodell	16 Dec.

1587 $\frac{5}{8}$.

Edmund Foster and Sara Fyerway	19 Feb ^y .
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1588.

Richard Harmer and Anne Underdowne	20 June.
John Browning and Susan Marckwick	5 Aug.

1589.

George Thacher and Elizabeth Goodgrove	12 May.
John Grove and Constance Cockshott	3 July.
Peter Tyllye and Brydgett Avenell	13 July.
Arnowlđ Bodell and Joan Gats	3 Oct.

1589 $\frac{9}{10}$.

Emlen Fayerway and Thomas Pep.....	23 Jan ^y .
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1590.

William Gates and Joan Gaskyne	3 May.
John Reynolds and Sara Mott.....	28 May.
Sara Baker and Elyas Fayerway	7 June.
William Corneford and Margaret Wyneham	5 Nov.
Thomas Woorger and Margaret Jackman.....	29 Nov.

1590 $\frac{1}{1}$.

John Kenchsly and Joan Daniell	26 Jan ^y .
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1591.

Thomas Dormsall and Katherin Woorgar	1 July.
Abraham Esterfilde and Mary Tealing	2 Aug.
Myles Hodgson, Minister of the Word of God, of Haylshame, and Phillipp Puttenden, at Nettleston in Kent	6 Sept.
Richard White and Joan Bodell	9 Sept.
John Kingswell and Elizabeth Ramder	13 Sept.
John Andrewes and Mary Ponte	15 Sept.
Steven Underdowne and Annis Berrye	16 Sept.
Fellex Willard and Joan Russell	7 Oct.
Thomas Skynner and Joan Woodsell	2 Nov.

159½.

Thomas Bodell and Alice Garrett	1 Feb ^y .
Frances St. John and Widow Allman	15 Mar.

1592.

John Wood, p st of Chaunton, and Elizabeth Hayward	26 Sept.
Robert Amylls and Constance Kenchsly	11 Dec.
James Emery and Elizabeth Ackerst	23 Dec.

159¾.

Roger Hubberden and Annis ——— (<i>sic</i>)	11 Jan ^y .
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1593.

John Herryott and Tomzine ——— (<i>sic</i>)	17 May.
Hugh Franckwell and Margery Collingame	9 July.
John Peckman and Elizabeth Kyngswell	4 Oct.
Abraham Snayle and Anne Styler	24 Dec.

1594.

Thomas Harwood and Susan Wenam	11 Aug.
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159½.

George Bachelor and Elizabeth Hamlen	13 Feb ^y .
James Parterige and Joan Hamlen	17 Feb ^y .

1595.

Thomas Prettye and Mary Wekins	8 July.
John Cockshott and Mary Goddins	6 Oct.

1596.

Edward Randall and Mary Underdowne ...	19 April.
John Grene and Mary Newenden	12 Sept.
William Trapson and Joan Paineter	18 Oct.

1597.

James Lyngfild and Joan Foxe	6 June.
Mylles Merricke and Frances Unwyne	3 Oct.

159¾.

Thomas Woorgar and Joan Furnifall	22 Jan ^y .
Thomas Harner and Katherin Tutt	23 Jan ^y .

1598.

William Hodgken and Mary Snow	8 May.
Richard Bryshwood and Christabell French.....	9 July.
Edmund Kenchslye and Anne Langford	17 Aug.
Edward Marten and Humylite Woodyer	9 Oct.

1599.

Edward Foot and Siball Estene	9 July.
Thomas Pyme and Alice Foot, widow	9 Aug.
Pattrick Ferner and Margaret Hamblen, widow	21 Sept.
Richard A'lygh and Dorothy Dennet.....	22 Nov.

1599.
1600.

William Mydleton and Elizabeth Tuppen	17 Jan ^y .
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APPENDIX II.

CONSENTS OF MARRIAGE, 1653—1658.

M ^r John Lover of this parish, son of John Lover of Glynde, yeoman, and Suzanna Diplocke, daughter of Robert Diplocke of this parish, yeoman	11 Dec., 1653.
They were married at Haylsham, 27 th December, 1653, by James Temple, Esq.	
Henry Coby, the elder, of this parish, gent., and M ^{rs} Mary Elvered of Hooe, widow	23 Dec., 1653.
They were married at Hooe, 31 st January, 1653, by Mathaniell (<i>sic</i>) Studley, Esq.	
John Grevett of this parish, yeoman, and Joane Marchant of Hellingly, widow	22 Jan., 1653.
Not published third time, but were married by M ^r Rogers, minister of Chiddingly.	
Thomas Cleaver of this parish, husbondman, and Suzanna Dayes of this parish, daughter of Hester Dayes, widow	22 Jan., 1653.
William Putland of Hellingly, taylor, and Anne Mills, daughter of William Mills of Hellingly, Innkeeper	1 March, 1653.
Christopher Lake of this parish, weaver, and Margaret Norten of this parish, widow	12 March, 1653.
Thomas Attwells of Heathfield, shoemaker, and Anne Baker of the same parish, widow	17 March, 1653.
John Crowhurst of this parish, glover, and Katherine, daughter of Elizabeth Radford of this parish, widow	21 May, 1654.
William Goring of this parish, gunsmyth, son of William Goring of Lewes, and Anne Tutt of Fowington	28 May, 1654.
John Fritter of this parish, husbondman, and Joane Bevis of Pevensey, daughter of Richard Bevis of Fokengton	18 June, 1654.
John Vine of Hellinglie, husbondman, and Mary Wood of the same parish	16 Aug., 1654.
John Maynard of Ripe, yoman, and Elizabeth Parson of Waldron	23 Aug., 1654.
Joseph Cornford of Hellingly, taylor, and Joane, daughter of Edward Burnett of this parish	24 Sept., 1654.
Abraham Upton of Arlington, husbondman, and Eave Botting of this parish, widow	1 Oct., 1654.

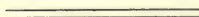
Thomas Kealy of Heathfield, yeoman, and Joane Crooth, widow of the same parish	18 April, 1655.
William Foord of Fowington, husbondman, and Freegift Hamblin of this parish.....	22 Apr., 1655.
Francis Powell of Hellingly, husbondman, and Elizabeth Kent of the same parish.....	2 May, 1655.
John Crooth, husbondman, and Anne Fate, both of Hellingly	9 May, 1655.
Nicholas Rogers of Hellingly, maulster, and Margery Bodle of this parish	20 June, 1655.
Abraham Eightacre of Brenchley in Kent, weaver, and Jane Snickfeild of this parish	15 July, 1655.
Walter Bevin and Bethia Huggett, both of this parish	15 July, 1655.
Joan Easton of Hellingly, husbondman, and Elizabeth Gurr of the same parish, widow.....	25 July, 1655.
Robert Marchant of Mayfield, husbondman, and Anne Morley of Buxted	1 Aug., 1655.
Thomas Longley, husbondman, and Mary Ticehurst, both of Ashbornham	22 Aug., 1655.
James Freind, husbondman, and Martha Kerrin, both of Brightling	29 Aug., 1655.
John Whate of this parish, husbondman, and Joane Knight of Hellingly.....	2 Sep., 1655.
William Henty of Hellingly, husbondman, and Sarah Heathfeild of Heathfield	5 Sep., 1655.
Thomas Austen of Chalvington, husbondman, and Mary Fermor of this parish.....	16 Sep., 1655.
John Durrant of Hellingly, yoman, and Mary Busfeild of Towne Malling in Kent	19 Sep., 1655.
Nathaniel Pankhurst of Hellingly, husbondman, and Elizabeth Russell of Arlington	26 Sep., 1655.
John Hosmer of Barcombe, tallow chandler, and Suzanna Wenham, of Hellingly	26 Sep., 1655.
Henry Woodcock of Seaford, gent., and Anne Gratwicke of the same parish, widow	17 Oct., 1655.
Thomas Heaseman of Mayfield, husbondman, and Anne Jame of Dallington	17 Oct., 1655.
Daniel Mugridge of Arlington, husbondman, and Elizabeth Hubberden of this parish, widow	21 Oct., 1655.
Thomas Verral, laborer, and Mary Rowe, widow, both of this parish.....	21 Oct., 1655.
Clement Bateman, mason, and Mary Rofe, both of Westham	31 Oct., 1655.
John Iden, husbondman, and Elizabeth Thomas, both of Ashburnham	7 Nov., 1655.
Thomas Akehurst, husbondman, and Elizabeth Wilkin, both of this parish.....	18 Nov., 1655.
Thomas Moore, husbondman, and Jane Willard alias Moore of Waldron	12 Dec., 1655.
William Wade of Hellingly, husbondman, and Mary Baker of this parish.....	2 Jan., 1656.

Nicholas Farelle of Framfield, husbondman, and Mary Turvill of Warbleton.....	9 Jan., 1656.
William Hardham, husbondman, and Jane Easton, widow	6 Feb'y., 1656.
Thomas Page of Wilington, husbondman, and Frances Cruttall of this parish	12 March, 1656.
Edward Burnett, husbondman, and Joane Lindfeild, widow, of this parish	16 March, 1656.
William Harvey of Wartling, forgerman, and Jane Taylor of the same parish	19 March, 1656.
John Palmer of Cliffe, neere Lewes, taylor, and Anne Newington of Chiddingly	19 March, 1656.
John Messenge of Burwash, forgerman, and Annie Elphick of Chiddingly	26 March, 1656.
William Fawkner of Wartling, gent., and Elizabeth Aniscombe of Mayfield	2 Apr., 1656.
John Crowhurst, husbondman, and Mary Glidd, both of this parish	6 Apr., 1656.
Thomas Reede, husbondman, and Dorothy Buckull, widow, both of Westham	16 Apr., 1656.
Henry Knight, shearsman, and Jane Hover, both of Iffeild ..	21 May, 1656.
Joseph Cornford of this parish, taylor, and Mary Hollands of Wartling, widow	25 May, 1656.
Thomas Pankhurst of Heathfield, husbondman, and Joane Hills of Herstmonceux	28 May, 1656.
Richard Gates of this parish, husbondman, and Sarah Lowes of Arlington, widow	15 June, 1656.
John Deane of this parish, husbondman, and Anne Duke of Selmiston, widow	15 June, 1656.
John Willis, husbondman, and Elizabeth Breach, both of this parish	22 June, 1656.
John Nabb of Herstmonceux, husbondman, and Anne Foorde of Chalvington	25 June, 1656.
William Mauser, husbondman, and Suzanna Wilding, both of this parish	25 June, 1656.
[This intended marriage was excepted against by William Wilding, father of the said Suzanna Wilding.]	
John Fowler of Hooe, yeoman, and Elizabeth Borner of Battell	23 July, 1656.
James Nicholls, husbondman, and Elizabeth Steene of Ripe	23 July, 1656.
George Pupp, husbondman, and Anne Hix, widow, both of this parish	3 Aug., 1656.
Richard Mitchell of Rotherfield, husbondman, and Alice Hunt of Mayfeild, widow	13 Aug., 1656.
Samuel Mott of Herstmonceux, husbondman, and Elizabeth Midhurst of Ashbornham, widow	13 Aug., 1656.
Isaac Midhurst of Friston, husbondman, and Jane Easton of this parish, widow	10 Sept., 1656.

John Knight of Hellingly, husbondman, and Isabella Woodland of this parish	14 Sept., 1656.
John Ticehurst of Ashbornham, husbondman, and Anne Hills of Rotherfield	15 Oct., 1656.
Robert Duplocke of this parish, yoman, and Constance Weston of Wadhurst, widow	26 Oct., 1656.
[Married at Haylsham within the Lißty. of Pevensey by Rob ^t . Petfeild, gent., one of the jurats of the said Lißty., 18 December, 1656.]	
John Pankhurst, mason, and Alice Bewe, widow, of Mayfeild	14 Jan., 1657.
John Hasselden, husbondman, and Francis Bellings, both of Heathfield	14 Jan., 1657.
George Piggott, husbondman, and Elizabeth Knowles, both of Wadhurst.....	21 Jan., 1657.
Thomas Bull of Bishopston, husbondman, and Francis Mabb of Eastdene.....	28 Jan., 1657.
William Funnell of Hellingly, husbondman, and Elizabeth Swift of this parish.....	4 Feb., 1657.
Richard Harmer of Denton, husbondman, and Elizabeth Snoe of Chiddingly	11 March, 1657.
Samuel Giles of this parish, mercer, and Elizabeth Winter of Hastings	29 Mar., 1657.
John Chauntler of Laughton, yeoman, and Elizabeth Alchorne of the same parish	1 Ap., 1657.
Richard Pilcher, husbondman, and Anne Baker, both of Battell	8 Ap., 1657.
Benjamin Burdey, shoemaker, and Margaret Millam, both of Heathfield.....	22 Ap., 1657.
James Smyth of Wartling, forgerman, and Anne Smyth of Heathfield, widow	29 Ap., 1657.
Thomas Roberts of Heathfield, husbondman, and Elizabeth Gower of Mayfield	20 May, 1657.
John Weavers of Ripe, ats Eckington, husbondman, and Agnes Button of Laughton, widow.....	20 May, 1657.
Thomas Wigg, yeoman, and Mary Foster, widow, both of Battel ..	20 May, 1657.
Mark Pummay of Laughton, husbondman, and Judith Groebridge of Ripe, ats Eckington	27 May, 1657.
Abraham Lulham, potter, and Margaret Dandy, both of Battel	10 June, 1657.
James Dipperry of Waldron, husbondman, and Mary Alvery of Westdeane	10 June, 1657.
John Chapman, brickmaker, and Mathew (<i>sic</i>) Lulham, widow, both of Hellingly.....	17 June, 1657.
Thomas Kenward, shoemaker, and Mary Grayborne, widow, both of Maresfield	24 June, 1657.
William Hamblin of Arlington, yoman, and Elizabeth Kenchly of this parish.....	24 June, 1657.
William Stone of Lullington, husbondman, and Anne Piper of Denton	8 July, 1657.

John Dennis, fisherman, and Constance Bayley, both of Eastborne	15 July, 1657.
Joseph Cruttenden, shoemaker, and Grace Glasyer, widow, both of Burwash	15 July, 1657.
Richard Mills, miller, and Mary Luck, both of Mayfield	12 Aug., 1657.
John Mersall, husbondman, and Elizabeth Cordy, both of Ticehurst	12 Aug., 1657.
Symon Latter of Rotherfield, "kemmer," and Elizabeth Miles of Mayfield	12 Aug., 1657.
Thomas Boorman of Mayfield, husbondman, and Deborah Peirce of Norton	2 Sep., 1657.
Edmund Wakeland of Framfield, husbondman, and Anne Rogers of the same parish	9 Sep., 1657.
Thomas Atherole of Chayley, "sherman," and Anne Wood of Keymer, widow	23 Sep., 1657.
John Wimarcke and Mary Simmons, widow, both of this parish	18 Oct., 1657.
William Kneller of S ^t Thomas in the Cliffe, cloth-worker, and Elizabeth Wredon of Buxted	21 Oct., 1657.
Thomas Henly, husbondman, and Joane Marten, both of Hellingly	28 Oct., 1657.
Elias Alic, of Alciston, miller, and Elinor Bede, of Selmeston, widow	2 Dec., 1657.
Thomas Frenche, husbondman, and Lucy Wilcocke, both of Warbleton	27 Jan., 1658.
Robert Barden, husbondman, and Ann Hoad, widow, both of Warbleton	27 Jan., 1658.
Thomas Burt of Burwash, weaver, and Elizabeth Reade of Battell	3 Feb., 1658.
Thomas Algate of Fowington, husbondman, and Jane Austen of Hayton, widow	24 Feb., 1658.
Thomas Atwell, husbondman, and Elizabeth Drewe, widow, of this parish ..	24 Feb., 1658.
[Forbidden after second time by said Elizabeth Drewe.]	
Samuel Awwcock, husbondman, and Mary Dan of Battell	10 Mar., 1658.
William Poole, yoman, and Elizabeth Gosden, widow, of this parish	28 Mar., 1658.
William Funnell of Hellingly, sawyer, and Elizabeth Botting of Arlington, widow	7 Ap., 1858.
Thomas Earle, yoman, and Mary Acton, widow, both of Ripe	14 Ap., 1858.
John Peirce of Ringmer, husbondman, and Elizabeth Waterman of Framfield, widow	14 Ap., 1658.
Richard Lancke, husbondman, and Joane Wimble of Laughton	5 May, 1658.
Thomas Hencoate, miller, and Mary Jennings of this parish	4 July, 1658.

William Maynard, husbondman, and Anne Taylor, widow, of Rotherfield	28 July, 1658.
David Moore of Wartling, husbondman, and Ellinor Hart of this parish	1 Aug., 1658.
Jeremy Reede of this parish, yoman, and Jane White of Northyam	8 Aug., 1658.
William Briant of Lewes, inneholder, and Mary Hood of Blatchington	25 Aug., 1658.
David Russell of Lewes, turner, and Suzanna Devoll of Friston	1 Sep., 1658.
Richard Gates, husbondman, and Ellinor Bates, widow, both of this parish	5 Sep., 1658.
John Helden of Brightling, gent., and Alice Foord of Ringmer	15 Sep., 1658.
Robert Alfrey, husbondman, and Mary Baker of this parish	19 Sep., 1658.
John Bray, husbondman, and Anne Raynor, widow, both of this parish	22 Sep., 1658.
John Farncombe of Itchingham, husbondman, and Sarah Beeching of Ticehurst	22 Sep., 1658.
Richard Wood of this parish, carpenter, and Dorothy Glid of Herstmonceux	26 Sep., 1658.



ADDENDA ET CORRIGENDA.

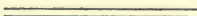
- P. 10, line 15, for "clerk to" read "clerk, to."
- P. 24, line 1.—The vill of Hailsham was probably the part outside the Liberty of Pevensey.
- P. 25, line 11.—Robert Marmion's charter was granted about 1230, probably when he succeeded to the lordship of Berwick in 1227.
- P. 40.—de Berewyk appears to have been the title of the bailiff of the vill of Hailsham (or Hailsham foreign), as de Endelenewick was of the bailiff of the Liberty.
- P. 60, line 1, for "sewing" read "sowing."
- P. 63.—The French Revolution was probably responsible for an imposing entry in the registers of 1806, the parents being probably refugees, viz., the baptism of "Philip Cato Henry Charles Leander son of John Charles Baron de Glen and Ann Christiana Juliane Antoinette Baroness de Schmidt."
- P. 66, last line but one.—I find that I have unintentionally under-rated the energy of the Parish Council; the number of notice-boards erected is five.
- P. 72.—Bowley manor: c. 1300 Andrew de Saukeville held two and a half knights' fees in Chalcinton, Boggelegh and Bokherst—also two fees of the manor of Gevington, in Aumbefeld, Farnstreet, Otteham and Teliton ("S.A.C.," Vol. XLIII., p. 194). And in 1316 Joan, late the wife of Andrew de Saukevill, has livery of a third of the manor of Chalcintone, which is of the yearly value of £7. 3s. 0d., and a third of the manor of Boggele, which is of the yearly value of £9. 8s. 6d. (Cal. of Close Rolls, Edw. II., Vol. II.).
- P. 113.—Upon further consideration I am inclined to think that the north door and the lower portion of the walls of the north aisle are part of the original twelfth century church.
- P. 117, last paragraph.—The Hooper bequest is now represented by £645 Consols; the school is also in receipt of the interest on a sum of £630 bequeathed by William Slye; Charles Slye left £100 towards the "clothing club." Horsfield states, in his "History," that there is a charity founded in 1786 by Edward Cruttenden consisting of £20 for the use of the poor, but of this I can find no other notice; there are, however, frequent entries in the parish accounts from 1750 onwards of quarterly payments of £5 for the "charetable yous money." In this connection I may mention that there are three receipts for 1636—1638 of payments by the church-wardens of 8s. 8d. each year "for charitable uses."
- Chapter IX.—The notices of previous and later benefices in Sussex held by Hailsham clergy are taken from Rev. G. Hennessy's "Chichester Diocese Clergy Lists."

- P. 134.—In a deposition taken in 1663 “George Clarke of Herstmonceux, clerk, aged 53,” says that John Wenham “is lawfully minister of Haylsham, for Deponent with one Mr Moore did on or about the 20th day of November 1660 give him institucon and induction” (Exch. Dep. by Com., 15^o Chas. II., Mich. 26).
- P. 136, line 11.—In the Supplement to the “Chichester Clergy Lists” Thomas Robinson Welch is given as Chancellor of the Diocese in 1841.
- P. 166.—The land thus acquired by Walter de Pelham was probably sold by his son Thomas in 1318, in which year a writ was issued for the election of a coroner for Sussex, “Thomas de Pelham having disqualified himself by alienating his lands in the county after his election” (Cal. of Close Rolls, Edw. II., Vol. II.).
- P. 170, line 15, read “a chevron *erminois*.”
- P. 174.—How Dudington came into the hands of the family of de Dene is shown by the following charter, of the time of Stephen: “I Hugh prior of St Pancras (Lewes) with the consent of our whole chapter have made an exchange of the land of Cnolla (see note on page 80) and the land of Dudintona with Robert de Dena, Sibilla his wife, and Ralph his son and William Malfeth his heirs. And because Dudintona is of less value we have given to them in addition the land of Horsia which William Malfeth gave to us when he was made a monk and the land of Lanherst which Seburg’ gave to us for his obit, and 12^d in Buckenelia (Bowley?) and in the same Buckenelia 2^a of land. Witness: Ralph de Dena, William Malfeth, Ranulf de Cherlakestone, Rainald de Moret, Richard de Lundedala, Hardinch, Robert Francigena” (Harleian Charters, 44, F. 21).
- Page 178.—Another instance of Heccage in the neighbourhood occurs in (Egerton Charters, 387): Robert de Cobeford quitclaims to the Abbey of Robertsbridge “the service of heckage of the castle of Pevenes which they used to do for me for the land called Eylbrihtesham which they hold of me in Walderne;” dated 1255.
- P. 179, line 8 from bottom, for “le la” read “de la.”
- P. 180.—William de Marci and Ala his wife occur in a fine of 1197 (Pipe Roll Society, Vol. 20).
- P. 183.—Charters (46) and (47) are by Gilbert, the son of Edelina, (48) is by Gilbert, her grandson, the founder of Michelham Priory.
- P. 215, line 1, for “le” read “de.”
- P. 217, line 3 from bottom, for “Lasey” read “Lasey.”
- P. 222.—The Calendar of Patent Rolls for 9—11 Ric. II., just issued, contains one or two entries relative to the Prior of Michelham: “1385, Grant that the Prior of Michelham, appointed by the King 8 July 3^o Ric. II. to the custody of the alien priory of Wylmyngton at a certain yearly farm, and amoved therefrom by the appointment thereto of James Berners, knight, on Oct. 6 last, that as John Pelham, William Haukeforde of Devon, John

Brounesbury, Richard Spenser, and William Esteby of London have become mainpernors for his appearance before the King's Council at Westminster in the octaves of St Hilary to answer the King and James Berners, and that he will not remove any animals goods or chattels contained in an indenture one part whereof under his seal remains in the Exchequer, he may dispose of all the goods of the priory which were his before Oct. 6th last: granted upon his petition that he is distrained for his farm by summons of the Exchequer.

"1386, Commission to Edward Dalyngrugg and others to enquire what goods are now in Wilmington priory which the King lately committed to Thomas (*sic*) prior of Michelham to hold under a certain farm, and what is their value.

"In 1388, Commission of array to resist the imminent invasion of the French was granted to the Prior of Michelham, Edward Dalyngrig, William Fenes and Thomas Sakevyl, knights, for the Rape of Pevensey."



GLOSSARY.

ALLODIUM: Freehold estate.

AMBER: A Saxon measure of salt.

BARON: A freeman of the Cinque Ports.

BESCATE: A measure of land, probably connected in some way with
besca = a spade.

BOND-TENURE: Copyhold.

BORDARS: Cottagers.

BOROUGH ENGLISH: A customary descent of lands whereby they come to the youngest son; found much more extensively in Sussex than in any other county (see "S.A.C.," Vol. VI.).

CALEFACTORIUM: A room in a monastery containing a fire, where the monks were allowed to go and warm themselves in winter.

CARUCATE: As much land as can be cultivated in a year with a single plough-team.

CORD: A pile of wood containing 128 cubic feet.

CORRODY: An allowance of food, &c., made by a monastery to one who is not a member of their house.

CORVESER: A shoemaker.

COURT CHRISTIAN: An ecclesiastical court.

DEODAND: A personal chattel which has been the immediate occasion of the death of any person; it was forfeited to the Crown to be applied to charitable uses.

DONGEON: The keep of a castle.

EYRE: The circuit of an assize.

FISH-WEELS: A snare for fish, constructed of twigs.

FLETE: A stream.

FRANKALMOIGN: A tenure by which religious communities held land free of all service.

FRANK-PLEDGE, VIEW OF: Court-Leet, or the right of local jurisdiction.

HALMOTE: The court of a manor.

HECCAGE: See page 178.

HERIOT: A fine of the best beast payable to the lord of the manor on the decease of a tenant.

HEYBOTE: The right to cut wood for hedges or fences.

HIDE: A Saxon measure of land, said to be about 100 acres.

HOUSBOTE: The right to cut wood for household purposes.

LAWDAY: A Court-Leet, or view of frank-pledge.

MERCY, IN: Offenders put "*in mercy*" were amerced at sums fixed by the jury, whereas the amount of the *fines* was settled by the judges.

- MONTH'S MIND: A commemorative service held a month after the death of anyone.
- NONE: A service held at the ninth hour after sunrise.
- OBIT: A service for the soul of one deceased held on the anniversary of his death; also, money left for such services.
- PANNAGE: The right of pasturing swine in a wood.
- PINNOCK: A brick or wooden tunnel under a road to carry off the water.
- PORRENGER: A small metal bowl.
- POSSENET: The same as a porringer.
- PROCURAGE: Payment due from the parish priest to the bishop or archdeacon on the occasion of a visitation in lieu of lodging and entertainment.
- RELIEF: A payment made to the lord by a tenant on coming into possession.
- RENT OF ASSIZE: Freehold rents.
- SEAM: A measure of eight bushels.
- SEXT: A service, immediately following High Mass, at the sixth hour after sunrise.
- SLANK: A declivity.
- SOCAGE: Tenure by any definite service.
- SOLLAR: An upper chamber.
- STALLAGE: Payment for privilege of erecting a stall in a market.
- TALLAGE: Any subsidy due to the King.
- TALLY: A squared rod of wood on which were made notches indicating the sum for which the tally was an acknowledgment; the rod was then divided longitudinally, the creditor and debtor each retaining half,—corresponding to a cheque and its counterfoil.
- TOURN: A sheriff's court.
- VILLEIN: A serf.
- VIRGATE: A measure of land varying from 15 to 40 acres in different counties; it is here (p. 185) stated to be the 14th part of a knight's fee.
- WHITTLE: A white dress or cloak.
- YEAR'S MIND: An anniversary service, *cf.* Obit.
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INDEX NOMINUM.

- Abergavenny, Lord, 91.
 Abernin, John de, 67.
 Abrichtesham, Ralph de, 185.
 Abrincis, Richard de, 199.
 Judith de, 199.
 Acton, John, 193, 194, 195, 196.
 Mary, 271.
 Richard, 193.
 Adam, 185.
 Daniel, son of, 184.
 Master, 24.
 Adams, 61.
 Jean, 263.
 John, 261.
 Richard, 85.
 Ade, Thomas, 257.
 Ades, 94.
 Alice, 262.
 Aelrichestun, Andrew de, 185.
 Richard de, 185.
 Affenell [Avenel], *see also* Fennell.
 Bridget, 264.
 John, 159.
 Richard, 83.
 Simon, 29, 82, 83, 84, 90, 91,
 159, 245.
 Aghteman, Avery, 154, 171.
 Aguillon, Manasses, 174.
 Sir Richard, 24.
 Aires, Ann, 121.
 Akehurst [Ackers], Agnes, 259, 263.
 Ann, 153, 194.
 Edward, 84, 93, 138, 139, 153.
 Elizabeth, 265.
 Joan, 264.
 John, 50, 85, 87, 153, 194.
 Nicholas, 82, 90, 153.
 Richard, 80, 153.
 Robert, 29, 80, 82, 153.
 Thomas, 120, 138, 139, 153,
 268.
 William, 146, 153.
 Akroyd, Samuel Fisher, 137.
 Alard, Gervase, 218.
 Henry, 68, 218.
 Albrerville, Robert de, 200.
 Alchorne [Allechin], 38, 138.
 Annis, 138.
 Elizabeth, 270.
 John, 196.
 Mary, 196.
 Aldeham, Francis de, 75, 205.
 Nicholaa de, 206.
 Alehurst, Simon, 170.
 Alfry [Alfrich], 3, 150, 154.
 Georgie, 147.
 Alfry [Alfrich], James, 142.
 Robert, 144, 272.
 William, 143.
 Algate, Thomas, 271.
 Alie [A'Lygh], Elias, 271.
 Kenchly, 193.
 Richard, 266.
 Alin, Thomas, 216.
 Allen, John, 260.
 William, 147.
 Alman, Richard, 142.
 William, 208, 218.
 Almod, 20, 77.
 Althorne, Nicholas de, 38.
 Altoft [Haltoft], Thomas, 76, 127, 156.
 Alvery, Mary, 270.
 Alysaunder, William, 89, 126.
 Ambrose, William, 80.
 Amherst, Lord, 254.
 Amilton, *see* Milton.
 Amylles, Robert, 265.
 Andrewes, John, 265.
 Thomas, 230, 233, 234.
 Aniscombe, Elizabeth, 269.
 Angemere, Thomas de, 219.
 Anneys, Simon, 68.
 Ansfrid, 80.
 Ansgot, 72.
 Apsley, John, 69.
 Cordelia, 69.
 Appys, John, 234, 235.
 Aquila, Edeline de, 182, 183, 199, 274.
 Engenulf de, 183, 199.
 Geoffrey de, 199.
 Gilbert de, 22, 97, 179, 182,
 183, 198, 199, 201, 202, 203,
 209, 214, 220, 274.
 Isabella de, 199, 214.
 Judith de, 199.
 Juliana de, 199.
 Nicholas de, 199.
 Richer de, 22, 182, 183, 184,
 199.
 Richoereda de, 199.
 Robert de, 199.
 Ardenne, Thomas de, 35.
 Arlington, Vicar of, 127.
 Armitage, Mary, 72.
 Arundel, Earl of, 96, 219.
 Henry, 69, 252.
 Richard, 42, 208.
 William, 69, 251.
 Ashburnham, John, 110.
 Roger, 223.
 Asheson, Thomas, 194.
 Askew, John, 147.

- Asshemerton, James de, 218.
 Aston, William Clifford, 137.
 Astyn, Robert, 125.
 Atherole, Thomas, 271.
 atte Berghe, John, 143.
 Philip, 142.
 William, 187.
 atte Doune, *see* Doune.
 atte Mersh, Simon, 218.
 atte See, John, 145, 205.
 atte Stile, Giles, 218.
 atte Walle, Walter, 101.
 William, 101, 142.
 atte Welle [de fonte], Robert, 203.
 Thomas, 158, 267, 271.
 atte Werd, Richard, 170.
 atte Wood [A' Wood], *see* de Bosco, and
 Wood.
 Alice, 144.
 Edward, 154.
 Joan, 154, 188, 191.
 John, 154, 188, 191.
 Matthew, 144.
 Regugius, 202.
 Richard, 154.
 Thomas, 92, 142, 144, 153, 154,
 206.
 Walter, 143, 144.
 William, 92, 153, 154.
 Aubarte, Maurice, 87, 88.
 Aufrey, Nicholas, 167.
 Augur, 256.
 Augustine's, St., Abbot of, 224.
 Aumbraye, John, 207.
 Auringeton, William de, 24.
 Austen, Edward, 94.
 Jane, 271.
 Jervis, 263.
 John, 94.
 Richard, 14, 263.
 Thomas, 268.
 Austman, John, 142, 143.
 Mark, 142.
 Simon, 142.
 Avere, John, 142, 154.
 Richard, 154.
 William, 170.
 Avernel, John, 111.
 Awcock, Samuel, 271.

 Ba, Edmund de, 97.
 Bachelor, George, 265.
 John, 253.
 Badesmere, Giles de, 74.
 Baker, Adam, 141.
 Ann, 267, 270.
 Bethia, 161.
 Constance, 263.
 Henry, 145, 188.
 Joan, 259.
 John, 84, 252, 264.
 Mary, 268, 272.

 Baker, Margaret, 255.
 Nicholas, 53, 54.
 Richard, 29, 107, 139.
 Sara, 264.
 Thomas, 111, 161.
 William, 223.
 Bakere, Alan le, 125.
 John le, 187.
 Ballard, 145.
 Bampton, Richard, 233.
 Banester, Alice, 262.
 Arthur, 236, 246.
 Barbar, Elizabeth, 132.
 Barclay, Capt. Allardyce, 11.
 Barcum, Gilbert de, 177.
 Barden, Robert, 271.
 William, 261.
 Barker, Alfred, 136.
 Barnden, 145.
 Annis, 261.
 Margaret, 259, 264.
 William, 262.
 Barnes, John, 260.
 Bartholmew, Catherine, 264.
 Thomas, 142.
 Barton, 147.
 Basset, John, 207.
 Bateman, Clement, 268.
 Bates, Eleanor, 272.
 Batelesford, Simon, 142.
 William, 125, 223.
 Bathee, John, 52, 107, 122, 139.
 Thomas, 194.
 Battle, Abbot of, 44, 92, 125, 246.
 — Laurence, 71.
 — Thomas, 225.
 Baudefar, John de, 202.
 Hugh, 202.
 Bavingehame, Thomas de, 214.
 Baxshall, 147.
 Bayes, William, 259.
 Bayham, Abbot of, 80, 92, 97, 127, 142,
 181, 187, 188, 192, 223, 230.
 John, 180.
 Laurence, 124.
 Richard, 99, 123, 236.
 Robert, 188.
 Thomas, 109.
 William, 226.
 Bayley, Constance, 271.
 Thomas, 54.
 Beaden, Joan, 261.
 Beartup, Richard, 255.
 Becke, Leonard, 260.
 Beche, Joan, 260.
 Bede, Eleanor, 271.
 Bedford, Thomas, 139.
 Beech, John atte, 206.
 Simon atte, 141.
 Beeching, Sarah, 272.
 Beeding, Catherine, 263.
 Beedett, Edward, 189.

Bekeworth, John de, 41.
 Bele, Richard, 80.
 Belevale, Ralph de, 184.
 Bellings, Frances, 270.
 Belsant, Julian, 206.
 Benbridge, William, 135.
 Benden, 145.
 Benedict the Jew, 35.
 Benjamyne, Thomas, 264.
 Bennet, John, 139.
 Phinis, 261.
 Benton, James, 94.
 Bercarius, Adam, 177.
 Robert, 174.
 Berde, Richard, 76.
 Berewyk, Gilbert de, 67, 167.
 Philip de, 40, 41.
 Robert de, 99, 141.
 Roesia de, 40.
 Simon de, 42.
 Berga, Benedict de, 214.
 Berners, Sir James de, 222, 275.
 John de, 202.
 Bernette, atte [Barnet], Ann, 195.
 John, 142.
 Thomas, 195.
 William, 144.
 Berneval, Simon, 229.
 Berrye, Annis, 265.
 John, 262.
 Bertelot, John, 142.
 William, 143, 144, 207.
 Bertram, John, 142.
 Bertyn, Alexander, 143.
 Henry, 144.
 William, 141.
 Bestinover, Thomas de, 177, 185, 200.
 William de, 25.
 Bevin, Walter, 268.
 Bevis, Clement, 263.
 Joane, 267.
 Richard, 263, 267.
 Bewe, Alice, 270.
 Bignall, Nicholas, 61.
 Birchen, Richard, 75.
 Bisshopestone, John de, 95.
 Blakstok, Joan, 125.
 John, 92, 126.
 William, 125.
 Blatchington, Matthew, 213, 237.
 Robert de, 98, 100, 123, 202.
 Blounham, John, 126.
 Blowere, Simon, 218.
 Bodle [Bothel], Abraham, 139, 156.
 Alan, 155.
 Arnold, 155, 264.
 Constance, 264.
 Edward, 30, 146, 155, 255.
 Elizabeth, 255, 261.
 Jane, 261.
 Joan, 262, 265.

Bodle [Bothel], John, 28, 29, 53, 94, 138, 139, 144, 147, 155, 156, 256.
 Justin, 155, 187.
 Margaret, 268.
 Michael, 155.
 Nicholas, 28, 29, 30, 138, 155, 156, 264.
 Peter, 70, 255.
 Richard, 156, 263.
 Sara, 29, 263.
 Thomas, 5, 28, 29, 53, 85, 138, 139, 145, 155, 156, 252, 255, 259, 262, 265.
 William, 28, 139, 144, 155.
 Bodington, Thomas de, 202.
 Bodly, Christopher, 54.
 Body, William, 146, 150.
 Bodyhame, John, 144.
 Boggelegh [Bugel], Alexander de, 75, 141, 142.
 Bartholomew de, 141.
 Nicholas de, 141.
 Thomas, 224.
 William, 182.
 Bohun, Isabella de, 206.
 Bokholte, John de, 40, 41, 42, 82, 124, 125.
 Mabel de, 41.
 Bolene, Henry, 142, 143.
 John, 142.
 Richard de, 141.
 Simon, 143.
 Boniface, John, 262.
 Bonycke, 145.
 Boorman, Thomas, 271.
 Borner, Elizabeth, 269.
 Bosco, Remigius de, 24, 185, 200.
 Thomas de, 205.
 Walter de, 25.
 Boselin, William, son of, 184.
 Botevillayn, William, 200.
 Botting, Elizabeth, 271.
 Eve, 267.
 Francis, 94, 146, 255.
 Bottomley, Horatio, 254.
 Bovenye, Richard de, 216.
 Bowell, Christopher, 261.
 Box, Ralph, 152.
 Boxgrave, Prior of, Anchitel, 184.
 Boxley, Abbot of, Robert, 180.
 Boyes, Edward, 146, 257.
 Braban, William, 262.
 Brabanzon, Roger le, 200.
 Brade, Henry, 182.
 Martin, 181, 182.
 Nicholas, 103, 182.
 Ralph, 103, 181, 182, 183.
 Randulph, 24, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185.
 Richard, 25, 181, 183.
 Rikeward, 103, 181, 182, 183.
 Wybert, 181, 183.

- Braklesham, William de, 202.
 Brake, Thomas, 142.
 Branche, Peter, 264.
 Branden, Annis, 259.
 Brasier, Edward, 146.
 Roger, 5.
 Bray, John, 79, 228, 272.
 Mary, 260.
 Simon, 82.
 Breach, Elizabeth, 269.
 Brereton, 145.
 Bret, Thomas, 155.
 Briant, William, 272.
 Bridge, Galfrid atte, 207.
 Bristow, 60, 150.
 Ann, 118.
 John, 118, 147.
 Brocas, John, 208.
 Broggs, Ralph, 141.
 Broker, William, 224.
 Brokeshutt, Richard, 207.
 Bromham, Elizabeth, 259.
 Thomas, 260.
 Brooke [atte Broke], John, 29, 244, 246.
 Thomas, 93, 263.
 William, 76, 82.
 Brown, Edward, 120.
 John, 141, 146.
 Robert, 207.
 Browne, Sir Anthony, 251.
 Browning, Elizabeth, 256.
 John, 107, 146, 256, 264.
 Sarah, 256.
 Susan, 256.
 Thomas, 194, 256, 257.
 Brushwood, Richard, 139, 266.
 Bryan, Ferdinando, 146.
 Thomas, 109.
 Bryd, John, 42.
 Simon, 42.
 Bryrely, 145.
 Buckherst, Edmund, 138.
 Buckhurst, Lord, 71, 130, 131, 155, 251,
 252, 254.
 Buckland, Thomas, 129, 166, 168.
 Buckull, Dorothy, 269.
 Bugel, *see* Boggelegh.
 Buissun, Ralph, 174.
 Bull, Thomas, 270.
 Bullard, Margaret, 263.
 Bullond, Thomas, 129.
 Bullyn, Ralph, 264.
 Bunt, Robert, 174.
 Bunting, Thomas, 263.
 Burdey, Benjamin, 270.
 Burfield, 16, 61.
 Burgess [Burgedse, le Burg'], Andrew,
 144.
 Eleanor, 107.
 Elizabeth, 139.
 Simon, 24, 200.
 Thomas, 107.
 Burgess [Burgedse, le Burg'], William,
 263.
 Burghershe, Herbert de, 185.
 Burghley, Lord, 26.
 Burna, Gilbert de, 178.
 Burnand, Robert, 185.
 Burnett, Edward, 267, 269.
 Joan, 267.
 Bursey [Bourcye], Reginald, 111, 129,
 130, 151.
 Burt, Thomas, 271.
 Burtenshaw, Henry, 13.
 Burgton, William de, 24.
 Burton, Joan, 202.
 John, 61.
 Thomas de, 202.
 Busfield, Mary, 268.
 Bush, Robert, 259.
 Buskheye, Simon, 142.
 Bussebrygge, Robert, 234.
 Busshopp, Thomas, 106.
 Bust, John, 244.
 Busty, Thomas, 44.
 Butcher, John, 91.
 Butler, 147.
 Button, Agnes, 270.
 Bygg, Nicholas, 218.
 Byker, William, 142.
 Byngle, Thomas, 207.
 Bysshopp, Thomas, 259.
 Bystodde, Annis, 260.
 Bystrete, Robert, 44.
 Cach, Richard, 165.
 Cade, Ann, 49.
 Jack, 43.
 Caffinch, Simon, 83.
 Cahaines, Gunnora de, 182.
 Richard de, 182.
 William de, 80, 179, 182, 183.
 Calverdon, William de, 173, 175.
 Calverly, Edmund, 193.
 John, 150.
 Joseph, 72.
 Samuel, 258.
 Caly, John, 258.
 Camerarius, Richard, 184.
 Cannon, Edward, 118.
 Martha, 118.
 Cantall, John, 261.
 Canterbury, Archbishop of, 98, 100,
 130, 209.
 Caperun, Richard, 202.
 Capmus the Jew, 35.
 Carder, 147.
 Cardyve, Ivo, 128.
 Carek, Mary, 49.
 Carey, 147, 150.
 George, 59.
 J. D., 137.
 Cariloco, John de, 221.
 Carlton, John, 213.

Carpenter, Eilwin, 177.
 Gilbert, 174.
 John, 82, 142, 143.
 Simon, 223.
 Thomas, 260.
 William, 142.
 Carrell, John, 29, 51.
 Carter, Bennett, 263.
 Jane, 260.
 John, 209.
 William, 209.
 Castell, Thomas atte, 41, 42, 124, 125, 141.
 Cater, Martin, 237.
 Catherine, Queen, 196.
 Caukett, John, 139.
 Caulfield, Avis, 262.
 Caunter, John Hobart, 136.
 Caunvill, Joan de, 209.
 Robert de, 209.
 Caute, Anthony, 260.
 Cavendish, Lord George, 2, 70, 72.
 Cay, Charles, 136.
 Cessingham, *see* Sessingham.
 Chadwick, 145.
 Chamber, Robert, 260.
 Chambre, Robert atte, 207.
 Thomas atte, 207.
 Chantler, Elizabeth, 70.
 John, 88, 270.
 Chapell, William, 128.
 Chapman, Alice, 262.
 Henry, 94.
 John, 270.
 William, 255, 257.
 Charles I., 52.
 Cheyney, 6.
 John, 76.
 Thomas, 76, 77.
 Chichester, Archdeacon of.
 Bishop of, 43, 99, 103, 125, 182, 205, 211, 212, 221, 226, 247.
 Chancellor of, 203, 219.
 Dean of, 96, 202, 205, 208, 235, 246, 247, 251.
 Earl of, 70.
 Chillye, Allured de, 184.
 Laurence de, 205.
 Richard de, 160.
 Cholmondeley, Richard Hugh, 197.
 Chyterigge, Robert, 143.
 William, 143.
 Clapson, Isaac, 12, 147.
 Clare, Bogo de, 100, 123.
 Claud, John de, 42.
 Clay, William James, 137.
 Clavregg, Alice, 203, 209.
 Cleaver, Thomas, 267.
 Clemens, George, 264.
 Margaret, 260.
 Clerck, Alan le, 154.
 Edith le, 154.

Clerck, Elys le, 170.
 John le, 99, 123.
 Ralph le, 174.
 Thomas le, 125.
 Clerk [Clarke], 145, 147.
 Elizabeth, 264.
 John, 146.
 Samuel, 70.
 Thomas, 72.
 William, 263.
 Cleves, Lady Ann of, 196, 251.
 Clifford, Thomas, 139, 146.
 Clintun, Reginald de, 184.
 Clistone, Abraham, 262.
 Clivie, Ailbriht, 182.
 Cloos, John, 235.
 Cnoke, Richard de, 185.
 Cnokedune [Nokdon], John, 174.
 Robert, 177.
 William, 174.
 Cobbe, Giles, 157.
 John, 156, 157.
 Margaret, 260.
 Nicholas, 157.
 William, 156.
 Cobeford, Adam de, 185.
 Robert de, 274.
 Coby, Henry, 133, 134, 267.
 Cockshott, Alan, 80, 84, 91, 156, 244, 245.
 Constance, 264.
 George, 260.
 John, 82, 156, 265.
 Richard, 139, 156.
 Thomas, 128, 139, 156.
 Cokesych, Richard, 142, 156.
 Coe, Lament, 49.
 Cogger [Coker], Catherine, 172.
 John, 125, 206.
 Peter, 90.
 Cokefeld, John de, 74.
 Colebrand, Mary, 107.
 Thomas, 10, 11, 139, 146, 147, 157, 168, 255.
 William, 107, 147, 150, 157.
 Colbran, Matthew, 157.
 Rachel, 157.
 Colbourne, Annis, 263.
 George, 259.
 Matthew, 263.
 Cole, 152.
 Coleman, 147.
 Richard, 154.
 Colgate, 150.
 Colingham, Elizabeth, 263.
 John, 245.
 Margaret, 265.
 Robert, 122, 139.
 Collier [Collyar], John, 80, 138, 189.
 Robert, 259, 260.
 Thomas, 80.
 Tomzzyne, 262.

- Collyn, Isabella, 126.
 John, 144.
 Colvyll, Elizabeth, 262.
 Comber, 145.
 Combes, Edward, 169.
 John, 255.
 William, 255.
 Constable, Richard, 122, 136.
 Cooke, John, 144.
 Cooper [Cowper], Abraham, 146, 263.
 Alice, 262.
 David, 169.
 Dennis, 263.
 John, 146.
 Matthew, 177.
 Nicholas, 138.
 Richard le, 101.
 William, 237, 260.
 Coppunt, Nicholas, 263.
 Cordy, Elizabeth, 271.
 Corneford, Joseph, 267, 269.
 William, 264.
 Cornewaile, Guy, 45.
 Sir John, 45.
 William, 45.
 Cosyne, Elizabeth, 261.
 Mary, 261.
 Thomas, 261.
 Cotes, Charles Cecil, 197.
 Charles Grey, 197.
 Courthopp, John, 160.
 William, 195.
 Coury, Richard, 67.
 Couverer, Peter le, 177.
 Robert le, 177.
 Cowden, Richard, 93.
 Cowsley, Edward, 30.
 Cralle, James de, 68, 187.
 Robert de, 218.
 Cranebrook, Peter de, 23.
 Robert de, 23.
 Cranyld, Catherine, 215.
 Croker, 145.
 Crompe, Robert, 75.
 Cromwell, Thomas Lord, 68, 192, 247, 250.
 Crooth, Joan, 268.
 John, 268.
 Croppe, Alan, 24, 157, 179.
 John, 142, 157, 158, 186.
 Robert, 158.
 Walter, 158, 187, 218.
 William, 41, 142, 158, 170, 218.
 Crowch, Annis, 259.
 John, 212.
 Thomas, 94.
 Crowherst, 65.
 Catherine, 135.
 George, 93.
 Henry, 147, 150.
 John, 267, 269.
 Robert, 93.
 Crull, Richard, 39.
 Cruse, John, 263.
 Cruttall, Edward, 54.
 Frances, 269.
 Crute, Simon de, 162.
 Cruttenden, Joseph, 271.
 Crunden, John, 91.
 Richard, 87.
 Thomas, 91.
 Cryer, George, 256.
 Crystemasse, Thomas, 141.
 Cuk, Adam le, 95.
 Richard le, 95.
 Culpepper, John, 223.
 Thomas, 69, 200, 251.
 Cumba, Richard de, 179.
 Cumbwell, Henry, prior of, 214.
 William, abbot of, 180.
 Cunningham, J. M., 11, 64.
 Curle, 59, 147.
 Curteville, Nicholas, 125.
 Curteys, Robert, 262.
 Simon, 218.
 Thomas, 126.
 Cutberd, Margaret, 260.
 Dacre, Sir Thomas, 43.
 Lord, 6, 76, 77, 82, 90, 111, 230, 231.
 — Gregory, 26.
 — Henry, 26.
 — Thomas, 236.
 Dallingridge, John, 205, 219.
 Edward, 275.
 Dalman, Walter.
 Dalrymple, Cordelia, 69.
 John, 69.
 John Apsley, 69.
 Daltone, Marmaduke, 80.
 Susan, 263.
 Dalynghton, William, 126.
 Dan, Jasper, 150.
 Mary, 271.
 Dandy, Margaret, 270.
 Danniell, Joan, 264.
 John, 139.
 Darbye, 145.
 Michael, 120.
 Darrell, 193.
 Richard, 128, 129.
 Thomas, 248.
 William, 260.
 David's, St., Archdeacon of, 97, 128.
 Davy, John, 77.
 Daw, John, 41.
 Richard, 127.
 Dawes, George, 94.
 Dayes, Hester, 267.
 Suzanna, 267.
 Deane, Elizabeth, 134.
 John, 145, 160, 269.
 Robert, 83.

- Deane, Roger, 83.
 Dearing, Thomas, 110.
 Death, Thomas, 259.
 de la Ware, Roger, 175.
 Lord, 197, 207, 247, 254.
 — Thomas, 254.
 Delve, John, 222.
 Richard, 44.
 Denam, Thomas, 83.
 Dene, Agatha de, 173, 175, 182.
 Alice de, 173, 175.
 Ralph de, 74, 157, 173, 174,
 175, 179, 183, 184, 274.
 Robert de, 173, 174, 175, 182,
 183, 274.
 Sibilla de, 173, 274.
 William de, 175.
 Dennet, Dorothy, 266.
 Mary, 262.
 Dennis, John, 271.
 Devenish [Denyssh], Jane, 81.
 John, 81, 127, 228, 234.
 Margaret, 81.
 Thomas, 110, 159, 172.
 Devoll, Susan, 272.
 Devonshire, Duke of, 197.
 Dicker, Philip atte, 141, 142.
 Dickson, Christopher, 259.
 Dimmock, 157.
 Diplocke [Deeplacke, Duplock], John,
 194.
 Robert, 107, 133, 139, 193, 267,
 270.
 Suzanna, 133, 267.
 Dippery, James, 270.
 Ditton, Galfrid de, 185, 202.
 John, 177.
 William, 202.
 Diva, Boselin de, 184.
 Henry de, 177.
 Hugh de, 177, 178, 184.
 Ralph de, 184.
 Dobbys, John, 205.
 Thomas, 44, 75.
 Dobyll, Laurence, 228.
 Dodson, Samuel, 254.
 Sarah, 254.
 Dormsall, Thomas, 265.
 Dorset, Duke of, 254, 257.
 Earl of, 51, 53, 54, 69, 112, 134.
 Charles, 254.
 Edward, 53, 54, 92.
 Richard, 252.
 Doune [Dune], Alexander atte, 162.
 Cok atte, 170.
 Henry de la, 185.
 John atte, 67, 125, 207.
 Nicholas atte, 142.
 Richard de la, 67.
 Robert de la, 98.
 William atte, 25, 79, 80, 145,
 217.
- Dray, 3.
 Drewe [Drui], 158, 177.
 Alice, 264.
 Annis, 260.
 Catherine, 264.
 Elizabeth, 158, 271.
 Christopher, 83.
 John, 80, 158, 188.
 Robert, 158.
 Thomas, 44, 146, 158, 260.
 Dudington, Hugh de, 174, 176.
 Duke, Ann, 269.
 Duncke, John, 193, 194.
 Dunstone, William, 259.
 Dunsy, John, 205.
 Duppa, Brian, 132.
 Durrant, John, 134, 268.
 Dyer [Dyghere], William, 42, 124.
 Dygbye, Richard, 263.
 Dyke, Sir Thomas, 30.
 Dyne, Alice, 264.
 Joan, 262.
 John, 260.
- Eades, Alexander, 53.
 Edmund, 107, 139, 146, 255.
 Edward, 256.
 John, 53.
 Earle, John, 262.
 Thomas, 271.
 William, 54.
 Eastbourne, Fraternity of Jesus, 250.
 Fraternity of St. John, 83.
 East Hoathly, Rector of, 231.
 Ecclesia, Remigius de, 185.
 Echingham, Simon de, 184, 185, 206.
 Thomas de, 228.
 William de, 184, 217.
 Edborow, John, 139, 256.
 Edlow, 194.
 Edmund, John, 142.
 Edwards, Abraham, 28.
 Elizabeth, 259.
 John, 80.
 Magdalen, 262.
 Ralph, 83.
 William, 6, 90, 111.
 Edyng, William, 226, 228.
 Eightacre, Abraham, 268.
 Eldechirche, *see* de Ecclesia and de
 Veteri Monasterio.
 Richard de, 218.
 William de, 218.
 Eleanor, Queen, 23, 67, 96, 187, 216.
 Elliott, Richard, 259.
 Robert, 263.
 Samuel, 256.
 Ellis, Alice, 261.
 John, 193.
 Elman, Thomas, 258.
 Elphick [Elphege], Ann, 269.
 Charles, 108.

- Elphick, Edmund, 146.
 Henry, 93.
 John, 93.
 Elvered, Mary, 267.
 Emery, James, 265.
 Endlenewyk, Philip de, 206.
 Thomas de, 33, 212.
 Walter de, 31.
 English, Dennis, 59.
 William, 147.
 Erche, Gilbert, 165.
 Erco, Simon, 142.
 Erridge, John, 146.
 Esquines, Ralph, 174.
 Esquitade, Rolande de, 174.
 Essetes, Richard de, 178.
 Eston [Easton, Estene], Jane, 194, 269.
 John, 268.
 Ralph, 178.
 Sibyl, 266.
 Esterfield, Abraham, 264, 265.
 Alice, 260.
 Elizabeth, 261.
 Joan, 261.
 John, 158, 159, 160, 260.
 Thomas, 159.
 Evelyn, Julia Annabella, 197.
 Julia Evelyn Medley Shuck-
 burgh, 197.
 Everard, Joan, 236.
 William, 236.
 Everley, William de, 212, 223.
 Ewrenden, Walter, 29.
 Exbridge, Thomas, 230.

 Facher, Richard, 80.
 Fader, John le, 46.
 Fagge, Sir Robert, 107, 112.
 Fakeham [Faukeham], John, 75, 92,
 217.
 Thomas de, 25.
 Falconarius, Robert, 185.
 Falkner [Fawkenor], Joan, 53.
 John, 83, 244, 249.
 Thomas, 53.
 William, 269.
 Farelle, Nicholas, 269.
 Farnstrete, Thomas de, 174.
 Farncombe, Agnes, 49.
 Anne, 138.
 Elizabeth, 49.
 John, 49, 272.
 Matilda, 96.
 Thankful, 49, 138.
 Fayerway [Fairnway], Elias, 52, 264.
 Emily, 264.
 Phoebe, 264.
 Sarah, 264.
 Thomas, 263.
 William, 52, 91, 161.
 Fayrebank, George, 167.
 Felde, William de la, 217.

 Fennell, *see also* Affenell.
 Annis, 262.
 James, 87, 88, 159.
 John, 159.
 Richard, 256.
 Simon, 159.
 Fenys [Fienles, Fynes], Sir Giles, 76,
 77, 247.
 Gregory, 6.
 Sir John, 26.
 Sir Roger, 43, 225, 228, 229.
 Sir Thomas, 76.
 Sir William, 77, 223, 275.
 Ferles, Master Gilbert de, 201.
 Fermer, Mary, 268.
 Ferrell, John, 262.
 Ferrers, Edward, 88.
 Ferrou, William, 228.
 Feryng, Amfrid de, 215.
 Fielder, 3, 150.
 Fillery, Roger, 194.
 Finche, Herbert, 71.
 John, 93.
 Vincent, 71.
 Finkell, Thomas, 130.
 Fishere, John le, 200.
 Richard le, 200.
 Fitness, 59.
 Fitz-Hugh, Sir Henry, 26.
 Sir William, 26.
 Fitz-Lambert, Walter, 95.
 Fitz-William, Hon. Charles W. Went-
 worth, 197.
 Floccer, Hugh de, 95.
 Florence, Cawen, 262.
 Flote, Thomas atte, 142.
 Foche, John, 228.
 Foljambe, Cecil George Savile, 197.
 Fokinton, Hugh de, 180.
 Reginald de, 180.
 Foote, Alice, 266.
 Ann, 268.
 Edward, 245, 246, 248, 266.
 Gregory, 237.
 John, 155, 253, 256.
 Parnell, 262.
 Richard, 257.
 Forde, Alice, 230, 231, 272.
 Ann, 269.
 John, 231.
 Robert, 237.
 William, 268.
 Fordere, Thomas, 228.
 Forster, Robert, 244.
 Foster, Agnes, 129, 160.
 Alexander, 111.
 Edmund, 145, 160, 264.
 Elizabeth, 160.
 Henry, 259.
 James, 61.
 John, 2, 145, 160.
 Mary, 161, 168, 270.

Foster, Nicholas, 111, 160, 161, 168, 259.
 Robert, 161.
 Stephen, 139, 161.
 Suzanna, 161.
 Thomas, 110, 160.
 William, 259.
 Fotur, Richard, 75.
 Walter, 75.
 Foulride, Gervase de, 218.
 Foville, William de, 215.
 Fowler, Edward, 234, 235.
 John, 269.
 Robert, 94, 245.
 William, 224.
 Fox, Alice, 261.
 Faith, 261.
 James, 260.
 Joan, 265.
 Franklein, John, 23.
 Ralph, 175, 214.
 Frankwell, Hugh, 138, 265.
 Fraye, Annis, 262.
 Freeman, 148, 150.
 Robert, 94.
 Freind, James, 268.
 Frencham, 145.
 Frenche, Ann, 260.
 Christabel, 266.
 Elizabeth, 157.
 John, 53.
 Martha, 107.
 Moses, 194.
 Stephen, 85, 107.
 Thomas, 107, 271.
 Frenchesbury, Robert, 188.
 Frere, Constantine, 137.
 Thomas, 224.
 Frithe, Richard atte, 161, 207.
 Thomas atte, 161.
 Fritter, John, 260, 267.
 Thomas, 259.
 Fromond, Robert, 224.
 Frye, Edward, 139.
 John, 142, 143, 145, 161.
 Nicholas, 143, 161.
 Thomas, 145, 260.
 Fryer, Edward, 139.
 Fulham, Robert de, 125.
 Fulker, 174.
 Fuller, 94, 148, 150.
 Edward, 235.
 John, 70, 196, 201, 233, 258.
 Richard, 94.
 Roger, 39.
 Thomas, 69, 146, 261.
 Dr. Thomas, 258.
 Walter, 235.
 Funnell, George, 139.
 Henry, 94.
 John, 256.
 William, 128, 261, 270, 271.

Furner, Patrick, 266.
 Furnes, Parnell, 260.
 Furnivall, Joan, 265.
 Fyndon, John de, 125.
 Fyssh, John, 228.
 Gage [Gaugi], Bridget, 51.
 Edward, 48, 51, 106, 111, 130.
 Frances, 30.
 Helias de, 200.
 James, 83, 109, 189.
 John, 26, 29, 73, 110.
 Sir John, 26, 27, 70, 169.
 Dame Mary, 30.
 Sir Thomas, 29, 30, 51, 84.
 Gallun, Robert de, 174.
 Garden, John, 144.
 Gardino, Robert de, 203.
 Gardner, John, 260.
 Ralph, 92, 177.
 Thomas, 259.
 Gare, Luke de la, 217.
 Richard de la, 200.
 Garlaund [de Garlondo], Henry, 95, 167.
 Garrett, Alice, 265.
 Parnell, 262.
 Richard, 172.
 Robert, 172.
 William, 219.
 Garslonde, John, 144.
 Gaskyne, Joan, 264.
 John, 59.
 Simon, 260, 262.
 Gates [A' Gates], Alice, 43.
 Frances, 263.
 Joan, 155, 264.
 John, 145.
 Richard, 269, 272.
 Thomas, 157.
 William, 220, 264.
 Gatton, Robert, 128.
 Geale, John, 201.
 Geering, Thomas, 60, 106, 163.
 Gent, John, 244.
 Gestling, Bertram de, 184.
 Gibbs, John, 14.
 Gibson, Arthur, 136.
 John, 136.
 Giffard, Osbert, 35.
 Gilbert, 148.
 Charles, 189.
 Gilderidge, N., 230.
 Robert, 44, 245, 250.
 Thomas, 75.
 William, 76.
 Giles, Elizabeth, 161.
 John, 87.
 Robert, 80.
 Samuel, 139, 146, 161, 270.
 Tobias, 195.
 Gilham, Catherine, 263.
 Gillet, Eleanor, 87.

- Gillet, William, 87.
 Gisyllum, William de, 217.
 Gladwine, 174.
 Glasyer, Grace, 271.
 Glen, Baron de, 273.
 Glener, Finis, 264.
 Glidd, Dorothy, 272.
 Mary, 269.
 Gloavre, Mercy, 262.
 Glynley, John de, 218.
 Gobb, Simon, 142.
 Godard, William, 177.
 Godfrey, 77.
 Godseb, Gilbert, 36.
 Godwyn [Godden], Edmund, 142.
 Emily, 263.
 John, 261.
 Mary, 265.
 Goffe, Daniel, 139.
 Goldsmith, Joseph, 61.
 Richard, 148, 150.
 Goldyng, Richard, 99.
 Goodchild, Thomas Oliver, 195.
 Goodgrom, John, 142.
 Goodgrove, Elizabeth, 264.
 Goodsone, Nicholas, 261.
 Goodwell, Henry, 127, 128.
 Goodwin, William, 139.
 Goodyere, Robert, 128.
 Goringe, 151.
 William, 53, 267.
 Gosden, Elizabeth, 271.
 William, 257.
 Gosefeud, Richard de, 97.
 Goselade, 145.
 Gosselyn, Roger, 207, 208, 212.
 Thomas, 145.
 Goudrod, Walter, 142.
 Gower, Elizabeth, 259, 270.
 John, 148, 263.
 Grastock, Elizabeth, 121.
 Richard, 121, 146.
 Gratwick, Ann, 268.
 John, 94.
 Grava, Robert de, 39.
 Gravesend, William, 213.
 Graye, Richard, 94.
 Grayborne, Mary, 270.
 Greene, Dennis, 260.
 John, 28, 265.
 Joan, 259.
 Greenfield, Alice, 260.
 Edmund, 260.
 William, 94.
 Gregory, 145.
 Grent, John, 44.
 Grestein, Abbot of, 205.
 — Robert, 175.
 Grevett, John, 267.
 Grey, Elizabeth, 26.
 John, 26.
 Griffith, ap, 128.
 Griffith, John, 128.
 Grig, Alan, 127.
 Grille, Matilda, 177.
 Grimaldi, Alexander Beaufort, 137.
 Gringoe, John, 146.
 Groebridge, Judith, 270.
 Grove, John, 264.
 Robert, 92.
 Groves, William Leach, 137.
 Gryer, Joseph, 255.
 Gubbard, Joan, 259.
 Gubbour, 82.
 Guldeford, Sir Edward, 29, 192.
 Henry de, 99.
 Gulafre, John, 200.
 Richard, 184.
 William, 178, 185.
 Gully, John, 65.
 Gunn, 29.
 Gunner, William, 146.
 Gunter, Thomas, 128.
 William, 127.
 Gurr, Elizabeth, 268.
 John, 49, 138, 139.
 Muchmarcy, 49.
 Gussak, John, 126.
 Gutsall, Joan, 260.
 Guy, David, 151.
 Gwynne, J. E. A., 241, 254.
 Gyllan, Alice, 261.
 Gyngeld, Roger, 142.
 Gynner, Joan, 260, 261.
 Haffenden, Elizabeth, 84.
 Hakham, John, 142.
 Hall, Henry, 194.
 Halsham, John, 162.
 Hamblin, Elizabeth, 265.
 Freegifte, 50, 268.
 Henry, 261.
 Joan, 263, 265.
 Margaret, 266.
 Richard, 53, 138, 139, 146, 148, 263.
 Robert, 50.
 William, 255, 270.
 Hamden, Gerard de, 35.
 Hamellton, Julian, 263.
 Hamerton, William, 126.
 Hammond, John, 144, 169.
 William, 169.
 Hanecok, Luke, 200.
 Hanek, John, 144.
 Hankham, Juliana de, 218.
 Hansard, Major Richard Masey, 63.
 Hapgood, 148.
 Harbart, Arnold, 155, 160, 161, 259, 263.
 Harbrowe, Arnold, 29.
 Harcourt, Egerton Vernon, 197.
 Octavius Vernon, 197.
 Hardham, William, 269.
 Hardinch, 274.

Harmer, Agnes, 163.
 Anthony, 163, 261.
 Elizabeth, 163.
 Helen, 261.
 Jane, 261.
 Joan, 262.
 Marian, 260.
 Nicholas, 261.
 Richard, 5, 264, 270.
 Thomas, 128, 163, 261, 262, 265.
 Harold, Earl, 72.
 Harris, 61, 146.
 Thomas, 94.
 Harrison, Charles, 195.
 Launcelot, 30.
 Robert, 134.
 Hartnup, William, 162.
 Hart, Alice, 260.
 Eleanor, 272.
 Margaret, 260.
 Harvey, Francis Clyde, 14, 120, 137.
 George Gayton, 66, 117, 136.
 William, 269.
 Harris, Thomas, 6.
 Harward, Margaret, 259.
 Harwood, Thomas, 265.
 Haryot, Michael, 44, 75.
 Hassocham, Hugh de, 183.
 Hassok, John, 223.
 Hastings, 65, 151.
 Henry, 148, 257.
 Mathew de, 38.
 Prior of, 199, 223, 224.
 Hawkesbury, Lord, 197.
 Haye, John de la, 202, 217.
 Randulf de, 180.
 Haygarth, George, 135.
 Haylsham, Robert de, 162.
 Simon de, 186.
 Haylward, William, 141.
 Hayward, Anne, 261.
 Elizabeth, 265.
 Matilda, 144.
 Head, John, 135.
 Heaseman, Thomas, 268.
 Heathfield, Sara, 268.
 Heath, John, 125.
 Hegginsworth, Richard, 44.
 Heglett, Mary, 259.
 Height, Thomas, 139.
 Helden, John, 272.
 Helling, Nicholas de, 181, 183.
 Richard de, 103, 181, 182.
 Rikeward de, 181, 182, 183.
 William de, 183.
 Hellingelegh, Ralph de, 128.
 Richard de, 24.
 Simon de, 25.
 Hellingly, Vicar of, 127, 133.
 Hemson, Joan, 260.
 Hemstede, Simon de, 24, 215, 217.
 William de, 141.

Hemsley, Edward, 94.
 Henbury, 65.
 Hencoate, Thomas, 271.
 Hendeman, Thomas, 207.
 Henley, Peter de, 141.
 Thomas, 271.
 Henry, Robert, 210.
 Henseman, Nicholas, 139.
 Henty, William, 268.
 Heppenhale, Adam de, 177.
 Eilwin de, 177.
 Herbert, Stephen, 133.
 Herbetyng, Idonea de, 77.
 Joan de, 77.
 Sara de, 77.
 Simon de, 77, 215.
 Hereward, Nicholas, 185.
 Richard, 208.
 Heringaud, Nicholas, 173.
 Hermershay, Ralph de, 162.
 Herre, John le, 177.
 Herryot, John, 265.
 Herst, Walerand de, 184.
 Hertshorne, Bertram de, 173, 175, 184.
 Heseldon, John, 270.
 Hesye, Bridget, 264.
 Heth, Frances, 264.
 Hicks, Alexander, 258.
 Ann, 269.
 John, 146, 195.
 Mortiffe, 50.
 William, 151, 195.
 Walter, 151.
 Hideneye, John de, 184, 205.
 Richard de, 25, 184.
 Simon de, 170, 177, 187, 218.
 William de, 208.
 Hielder, John, 65.
 Higden, John, 109, 128.
 Hilder, James, 148.
 Thomas, 139.
 William, 113.
 Hills, Ann, 270.
 Joan, 269.
 Hoad, Alice, 259.
 Annis, 262, 271.
 Thomas, 262.
 Wynyfryth, 261.
 Hobbye, John, 264.
 Hodgken, William, 266.
 Hodgson, Barnaby, 111, 112, 131.
 Edward, 131.
 Goldsmith, 112.
 John, 131.
 Miles, 130, 131, 132, 165, 265.
 Martha, 131.
 Philippa, 131.
 Thomas, 131.
 Hodings, Gilbert de, 184.
 John de, 184.
 Turstan de, 184.
 Hodson, John, 120.

Hodye, William, 139.
 Hogges, Thomas, 263.
 Hoke, Richard ate, 142.
 Hokeby [Hukby], John, 144.
 Thomas, 128.
 William, 44, 144.
 Holbeme, John, 228, 230, 233, 234, 245.
 Simon, 245.
 Thomas, 236, 237, 238, 251.
 Holewiche, Nicholas de, 205.
 Holland, 146, 148.
 Mary, 269.
 William, 264.
 Hollamby, John, 163.
 Hollybone, Joan, 262.
 John, 166.
 Holman, John, 255.
 Holmwood, Richard, 151.
 Robert, 151.
 Holt, Simon, 142.
 William, 143.
 Hompden, John, 94.
 Hony, John, 84, 85, 194.
 Hood, Mary, 272.
 Stephen, 53.
 Suzan, 53.
 Hooke, 146.
 Hooper, Elizabeth, 117, 121.
 Odiarne, 117, 135.
 Thomas, 106, 112, 121, 135, 148.
 Hoppere, Robert le, 23.
 Matilda, 23.
 William, 166.
 Horewe, John, 154.
 Horne, Joseph, 152.
 Walter de, 202.
 Horsenden, John de, 178.
 Richard de, 174.
 Robert de, 184.
 Horstede, Emma de, 185.
 Robert de, 200.
 Simon de, 202.
 William de, 184, 185.
 Horsye, John de, 99.
 Laurence de, 178, 184.
 Nicholas de, 22, 25, 79.
 Randolph de, 184.
 Hosmer, John, 268.
 Hothe, Simon de la, 101.
 Hover, Jane, 269.
 Howell, Annis, 264.
 John, 73, 80, 83, 191, 245, 260.
 Howlett, Francis, 139.
 Hubbard, 146.
 Hubberden, Elizabeth, 139, 268.
 Richard, 265.
 Ursula, 139.
 Hubert, John, 141.
 Hubersty, Thomas, 118, 135.
 Hudson, John, 14.
 Huggett, Bethia, 268.
 Hull, William, 120, 121.

Humphrey, John, 11, 139, 168.
 Michael, 139.
 Stephen, 52.
 Huneysett, Henry, 148.
 Samuel, 61.
 Hungerford, Sir Thomas, 223.
 Sir Walter, 89.
 Hunte, Alice, 269.
 Joan, 259, 263.
 John, 139, 187, 204, 208.
 Thomas, 259.
 Hurdis, 151.
 Hurriion, 65.
 Hurst, John, 207.
 Richard, 41, 207.
 Hus, Robert le, 214.
 Hussee [Hose, Howse], Elizabeth, 193.
 Gerlon, 202.
 Henry, 142.
 Hunfrey, 263.
 Osbert, 201.
 William, 75.
 Hyland, 255.
 Hyron, Annis, 261.
 George, 260.
 Icklesham, Hamo de, 173, 184.
 Ralph de, 173, 184.
 Robert de, 174, 184.
 Sibylla de, 173.
 Iden, Alexander, 44.
 John, 268.
 Illeston, Thomas, 207.
 Inge, William, 67.
 Ingram, James, 30.
 Inskipp, George, 148.
 John, 148, 151.
 William, 59.
 Ipyngbury, 249.
 Irrygge, Thomas, 146.
 Isabella, Queen, 201.
 Isted, Margaret, 264.
 Ivehurst, Christiana de, 37.
 Iverykesham, John de, 23.
 Robert de, 23.
 Iweregge, John de, 209.
 Robert de, 146.
 Jackeman, John, 260.
 Margaret, 264.
 Jackson, Joan, 260.
 Jadewyne, Richard, 126.
 Jame, Ann, 268.
 James, Richard, 224.
 Thomas, 148.
 W. R., 137.
 Janett, John, 33.
 Jaudelet, William, 218.
 Jefferay, Ann, 58.
 Richard, 76, 77.
 Walter, 257.
 Jenkin, Thomas, 146.

Jenkinson, Charles Cecil Cope, 197.
 Jenner, James, 148.
 John, 148.
 Walter, 148.
 Jennings, John, 256.
 Mary, 256, 271.
 Jepson, George, 137.
 Joceline, the Chaplain, 185.
 Johnson, Garrett, 260.
 Jones, 62.
 Herbert, 135.
 Joop, John, 207.
 Robert, 208.
 Thomas, 144.
 Jordayn, Thomas, 191.
 Joyes, William, 235.
 Joyner, Thomas, 110.
 Jurye, Elizabeth, 164, 259.
 John, 164.
 Richard, 164.

 Kanel, Alfred, 141.
 Karum, Wygthard de, 22, 23.
 Kealy, Thomas, 268.
 Kechynham, John, 76.
 William, 76.
 Kelle, Joan de, 202.
 Michael de, 24.
 Kenchly [Kensley], Abraham, 85, 139,
 164, 165, 193, 195.
 Alice, 259.
 Annis, 164, 259, 262.
 Constance, 262, 265.
 Dorothy, 260.
 Eleanor, 163, 189.
 Elizabeth, 270.
 Edmund, 80, 163, 266.
 Henry, 156, 165.
 Joan, 164.
 John, 80, 138, 163, 164, 189,
 193, 264.
 Nicholas, 164.
 Richard, 7, 28, 30, 83, 91, 138,
 163, 164, 165, 259.
 Thomas, 80, 163, 172, 261.
 William, 80, 163, 164, 189, 191,
 192, 193, 195, 245, 259.
 Kene, Richard, 191.
 Kennet, James, 58.
 Kent, Elizabeth, 268.
 John, 195.
 Kenward, Thomas, 270.
 Kerrin [Kyrren], Eleanor, 260.
 Martha, 268.
 Mary, 260.
 Kercharme, Galfrid, 162.
 King, Henry, 148.
 Richard, 151, 191.
 William, 60, 113, 148.
 Kingswell, Elizabeth, 265.
 Joan, 263.
 John, 263, 265.

Kingswell, Thomas, 259.
 Kipping [Kepping], 81.
 Nicholas, 143.
 Richard, 82.
 Robert, 142, 170.
 Kirby, John, 252.
 Kirksale, Richard, 80.
 Kitley, Herbert, 137.
 Kneller, William, 271.
 Knieves, 148.
 Knight [Knyth], Edward, 139.
 Henry, 269.
 James, 255.
 Joan, 268.
 John, 44, 261, 270.
 Robert, 128.
 Thomas, 144.
 Knocke [Cnoke], Henry de la, 162.
 Mabel de la, 162.
 Richard de, 185.
 Simon de, 185.
 Thomas de la, 162.
 Knotte, John, 234, 235.
 Knowles, Elizabeth, 270.
 John, 231.
 Krawle, Richard, 146.
 Kychyn, John, 89.
 Kyrkeby, John de, 210.

 Lake, Christopher, 267.
 Lamb, 3, 151.
 Charles, 120.
 Richard, 148.
 Lambert, Samuel, 60.
 Stephen, 61.
 Lampa, Agnes de, 184.
 Hugh de, 184.
 Lancaster, Henry, Duke of, 74.
 Roger, 128.
 Lancke, Richard, 271.
 Lanctry, 3.
 Lande, Dorothy, 259.
 Langford, Ann, 266.
 Lasey, John de, 217.
 Latter, Simon, 271.
 Laugham, 148, 151.
 Abraham, 119, 120.
 Ann, 119.
 Elizabeth, 120.
 Jane, 119.
 Launde, Adam, 23.
 Laurence, John, 224.
 Leaves, William, 70.
 Lebes, Isabel de, 184.
 William de, 184.
 Leem [de Leme], John, 211, 220.
 Thomas, 89, 220.
 William, 221.
 Leghton, Richard, 125.
 Leicester, Robert, Earl of, 26.
 Lenham, John, 146.
 Lester and Pack, 120.

- Lethbridge, Thomas, 29.
 Letton, Gunnora de, 203.
 William de, 203.
 Leveland, Galfrid de, 31.
 Levett [Livet], John, 74, 75, 144.
 Richard, 75.
 Robert, 74.
 Lewere, Hugh, 218.
 Lewes, Archdeacon of, 43, 210, 226.
 Prior of, 44, 221, 236, 246, 247,
 274.
 Lewis, Ann, 153, 194.
 Hugh, 135.
 John, 261.
 Richard, 153, 194.
 Lewyne, John, 33, 142.
 Margaret, 33.
 Simon, 205, 217.
 William, 32, 143.
 Lezignan, Galfrid de, 31.
 Linderse, Matilda de, 185.
 Lindfeild, Joan, 269.
 Lingfeild, James, 265.
 Lingham, Mary, 260.
 Littlewate, John, 68, 142, 143.
 Juliana, 68.
 Simon, 68, 170, 187.
 Liverpool, Earl of, 71, 197.
 Lloyd, 117.
 Thomas Pryce, 197.
 Lomb, Matilda, 144.
 London, Alard, Archdeacon of, 175.
 William, 225, 226.
 Long, John, 142, 144.
 Nicholas le, 170, 205.
 Reginald, 143.
 Robert, 142.
 William le, 101.
 Doctor William, 11, 57.
 Longeley, George, 61.
 Thomas, 268.
 Lopdell, John, 255.
 Love, George M., 137.
 John, 262.
 Lover, Ann, 133, 134.
 Elizabeth, 134.
 John, 133, 267.
 Mary, 133.
 Suzauna, 133, 134.
 Thomas, 134.
 Lowes, Sarah, 269.
 Loxebach, Michael de, 74.
 Lucas, John, 51.
 Luck, Annis, 161, 259.
 Mary, 271.
 Richard, 245.
 Thomas, 237.
 William, 237.
 Luckson, John, 262.
 Lulham, Abraham, 270.
 Edward, 263.
 Mathew, 270.
 Lulham, William, 139, 156.
 Lumley, Sir James, 70.
 Thomas, 194.
 Lunsford, Margaret, 262.
 John, 72.
 Luxford, Ann, 119.
 Edward, 119.
 Frances, 119.
 George Curteis, 66, 112.
 Jane, 119.
 John, 112, 119, 122.
 Mary, 119.
 Lymmys, Richard, 260.
 Lynd, John atte, 143.
 Lyndsay, John, 195.
 Lyon, John, 142.
 Lyson, Richard, 29.
 Lytlyngton, Thomas, 205.
 Lyuet, *see* Levett.
 Mabb, Frances, 270.
 Freegift, 50.
 Mabely, Robert, 141.
 Machon, Thomas, 224.
 Mackay, Captain, 64.
 Makenade, William, 223.
 Mallyng, William, 226, 228.
 Man, Nicholas, 186.
 Manser, William, 269.
 Mantell, Martha, 168.
 Manxeve, Ralph de, 202.
 Robert de, 24, 200, 202, 214.
 Marchant, Joan, 267.
 Robert, 268.
 Marci, Ela de, 180, 274.
 Hamo de, 180.
 Isabel de, 184.
 Ralph de, 179.
 Robert de, 184.
 William de, 173, 180, 274.
 Markwicke, John, 160.
 Susan, 264.
 Marley, Edward, 226, 228, 229, 230, 233,
 234.
 Thomas, 230.
 Marmion, Amice, 26.
 John, 23, 24, 25, 26, 35.
 Sir Robert, 24, 153, 273.
 William, 24, 25, 177.
 Marshall [Mareschall], Annis, 264.
 John, 82, 165.
 Robert, 165.
 Thomas, 165.
 Martin, 65, 149.
 Annis, 261.
 Edward, 266.
 Elizabeth, 262.
 Joan, 271.
 John, 259.
 Sara, 261.
 Mascall, Thomas, 146.
 Mason [Macon], Gerrard, 148.

Mason [Macon], Henry, 148.
 Nicholas le, 154.
 Miles, 144.
 Richard, 52.
 Robert, 180.
 William le, 23.
 Mass, William le, 166.
 Matthews, John, 149, 151.
 Samuel, 151.
 Mattock, Robert, 128.
 Maufe, Andrew, 205.
 Guy, 184.
 Peter, 184.
 Walerand, 200.
 William, 25, 74, 178, 179, 180,
 182, 183, 184, 209.
 Maunder, 146.
 Mawson, John, 195.
 Maxey, John, 118.
 Mary, 118.
 May, Elizabeth, 139.
 Richard, 107, 138, 139.
 Thomas, 139.
 Maynard, John, 267.
 Stephen, 44.
 William, 149, 272.
 Medley, George, 30, 149, 197.
 John, 196.
 Robert, 196.
 Thomas, 71, 146, 196, 197, 254.
 Meeke, Thomas, 129, 189.
 Meeres, John, 85, 258.
 Thomas, 86.
 Megham [Miggeham], Alan de, 74.
 Benedict de, 74.
 Richard de, 177.
 William de, 41, 125, 141.
 Melker, John, 141, 142, 156.
 Thomas, 141, 142.
 Mephham, 257.
 Edward, 94.
 Richard, 53.
 Meriefeld, William de, 182.
 Merle, William de, 201.
 Merricke, 149.
 Miles, 265.
 Mersall [Mereshale], Alice, 261.
 Alphege de, 177.
 Joan, 261.
 John, 144, 165, 262, 271.
 Richard, 80.
 Robert, 144, 165.
 Walter de, 101, 165.
 Messenge, John, 269.
 Mestede, Philip, 208.
 Michelborne, John, 264.
 Michelgrove, Edward, 245, 251.
 Michelham, Prior of, 80, 84, 92, 93, 97,
 99, 127, 187, 188, 195, 252,
 275.
 Nicholas, 216.
 Peter, 214, 215.

Michelham, Prior of, Roger, 214, 215,
 217.
 William, 216.
 see Holbeme, Leem, London,
 Marley, Shelvestrode, West
 and Wynchelse.
 Middleton, Robert, 43.
 Thomas, 91.
 William, 266.
 Midhurst, Elizabeth, 269.
 Isaac, 269.
 Midmore, Annis, 260.
 Miles, Elizabeth, 271.
 Mill, John atte, 10, 52.
 Thomas atte, 208.
 Mille, William, 233, 234.
 Miller, John, 118, 146, 256.
 Mary, 256.
 Richard, 86, 139.
 Samuel, 61.
 Mills, Ann, 267.
 Annis, 259.
 Nathaniel, 29.
 Oliver, 146, 256.
 Richard, 76, 271.
 Robert, 260.
 Thomas, 160.
 William, 108, 267.
 Millum, Margaret, 270.
 Milton, Richard, 146.
 Thomas, 91.
 Ursula, 91.
 William, 190, 194.
 Mitchel, Richard, 269.
 Moderlac, Gormund de, 182.
 Modyn, John, 218.
 Moneth, Robert, 141.
 Monser, William, 75.
 Montacute, Agnes de, 203.
 William de, 203.
 Monte, Eustace de, 175.
 Moore, Annis, 263.
 David, 272.
 Elizabeth, 263.
 Jane, 268.
 Margaret, 261.
 Mary, 260.
 Mores, John, 248.
 Morfote, Alan, 230, 231, 234, 235, 237.
 Morley, Ann, 268.
 Elizabeth, 253.
 John, 253.
 Morgan, William, 136.
 Morping, William, 207.
 Mortaine, Earl of, 20, 72, 77, 175, 199.
 Mortymer, Stephen, 246.
 Mott, Annis, 262.
 Joan, 263.
 John, 259, 261.
 Nicholas, 261.
 Robert, 76, 237.
 Samuel, 269.

- Mott, Sara, 264.
 Mountague, Henry, 134, 135.
 Mary, 135.
 Viscount, 251.
 Mousehurst, Ralph, 94.
 Mugridge, Daniel, 268.
 Richard, 255.
 Mulshale, Maurice, 142.
 Munceux, John de, 209.
 Simon de, 214.
 Walerand de, 182.
 William de, 200.
 Mus, Robert le, 24, 37, 142.
 William le, 37, 166.
 Musket, John, 143.
 Simon, 142.

 Nabb, John, 269.
 Needham, Ann, 134.
 Sir Francis, 134.
 Nerton, Henry, 262.
 Nevill, Laurence, 5.
 Neushall, Nicholas, 142.
 Newall, Alice, 260.
 Ann, 263.
 Ellen, 260.
 Elizabeth, 260.
 James, 262.
 Newenden, Mary, 265.
 Newington, Ann, 269.
 Newman, 86, 87, 186.
 Elizabeth, 168.
 Walter, 175, 207.
 William, 151, 194.
 Newnham, *alias* Newton, Thomas, 86.
 Nicholas, John, 93, 245.
 Nicolls, James, 269.
 Nicolson, Humfrey, 169.
 John, 169, 262.
 Robert, 145.
 Noakes, 149.
 Nokden, *see* Cnokedune.
 Norberton, William de, 39.
 Norfolk, Thomas Duke of, 247.
 Norman, Job, son of, 185.
 Norten, Margaret, 267.
 Richard, 256.
 Northampton, Earl of, 70.
 Northo, William de, 214.
 Northtounne, Benenger de, 218.
 Northya, Stephen de, 214.
 Norwood, Richard de, 25.
 Nutt, John, 69.

 Okeshott, Benjamin, 54.
 Okynden, John, 236, 245, 246.
 Oldfield, John, 129.
 Onsty [Unsty], Alice, 259.
 Elias, 29.
 Joan, 166.
 John, 80, 90, 165, 166.
 Nicholas, 166.

 Onsty [Unsty], Thomas, 75, 165.
 William, 129, 166, 262, 264.
 Osbern, Bartholomew, 3, 60.
 Hannah, 57.
 John, 44, 142, 144.
 Richard, 80, 128.
 Simon, 142.
 Thomas, 144.
 Walter, 44, 143.
 William, 44, 80, 107, 142.
 Osborne, Elizabeth, 133.
 Nathaniel, 133.
 Samuel, 133.
 William, 133.
 Otham, Abbot of, Jordan, 179, 183, 186.
 Oxenbridge, Goddard, 76.
 Thomas, 76.
 Oxenford, John, 224.
 Oxley, James, 255.
 John, 146.
 Oylebuf, Richard, 182, 185.

 Packham, Elizabeth, 259.
 Page, Abel, 112.
 Andrew, 44.
 Dorothy, 112.
 John, 111, 112, 139.
 Richard, 92.
 Thomas, 269.
 Pagham, Richard de, 203.
 Painter, Edward, 139.
 Joan, 265.
 Robert, 263.
 William, 138.
 Palerna, Hugh de, 184.
 Osbert de, 184.
 Palmer, John, 269.
 Pankhurst [Pencost], John, 270.
 Nathaniel, 268.
 Thomas, 269.
 Pardon, John, 122, 139, 256.
 Parker [Parcher], Alexander, 245.
 Barbara, 94.
 Elias, 231, 233, 234.
 Gilbert, 177.
 Richard, 212, 264.
 Sir Thomas, 26.
 Parks, Alexander, 168.
 Stephen, 151.
 Parminter, Henry, 137.
 Parson, Elizabeth, 267.
 Partridge, James, 265.
 Passelegh, Robert de, 209.
 Pattenden, John, 151.
 Richard, 151.
 Patys, Thomas, 230.
 Paulyn, Henry, 68, 205.
 Payn [Paine], Alice, 94.
 Edward, 194.
 Elizabeth, 194.
 John, 246.
 Nigel, 204.

Peake, Ashburnham, 160.
 Peckham, John, 265.
 Peckham, Sir John, 33.
 Pedefer, William, 203.
 Peeterson, Robert, 88.
 Peirse [Pearce, Pers], Ann, 62.
 "Anorgattelon," 62.
 Bridget, 159.
 Deborah, 271.
 Faithful, 50.
 George, 62.
 James, 159.
 John, 50, 271.
 Thomas, 145, 254.
 Pelham, Anthony, 249, 254.
 Edmund, 237.
 Henry, 70.
 Herbert, 253, 254.
 Joan, 253.
 John, 89, 223, 253, 275.
 Lord, 146, 149.
 Sir Nicholas, 70, 106.
 "Sir," 189, 237.
 Sir Thomas, 27, 247, 254, 274.
 Walter, 166, 274.
 Pelling, Peter, 149.
 Pep, Thomas, 264.
 Perchynge, Simon, 154.
 Peryer, 228.
 Petelesden, 228.
 Peters, 151.
 Petfeild, Robert, 270.
 Petit, Thomas, 86.
 Pettibone, Richard, 256.
 Pevense, Richard de, 38, 170, 186.
 Simon de, 175.
 Peylpott, 146.
 Philippa, Queen, 26, 219.
 Phillip, Marian, 262.
 Piddlesden, Edward, 194.
 Peter, 201.
 Piggott, George, 270.
 Pilbeame, Richard, 255.
 Pilcher, Elizabeth, 263.
 John, 256, 260.
 Richard, 270.
 Pimm, John, 194.
 Thomas, 86, 138, 262, 266.
 Pincerna, Robert, 72, 173, 179.
 Pinnock, George, 136.
 Pinyon, 3.
 Piper, Ann, 270.
 Henry le, 215.
 Pitte, Robert at, 200.
 Plumer, Elizabeth, 120.
 James, 120.
 John, 120.
 Richard, 120.
 Robert, 120.
 Pocock, George, 112, 136.
 Poleard, 152.
 William, 264.

Pollington, Nathaniel, 256.
 Thomas, 146.
 Ponte, Mary, 265.
 Richard, 75.
 Richard de, 182.
 William, 76.
 Poole, William, 271.
 Pope, John, 76, 151.
 Porter, 194.
 Portland, Lord, 88.
 Portman, Hon. H. W. Berkeley, 197.
 Portreve, Simon, 142.
 Poteman, John, 76.
 Potter, John, 92, 93.
 Pouke, William, 186.
 Powell [Poyle], Francis, 268.
 Morgan, 45.
 William, 45.
 Praty, John, 226, 228.
 Prester, Nicholas, 5.
 Prettye, Thomas, 265.
 Prior, Joan, 260.
 Robert, 6.
 Profit, 29, 256.
 Richard, 93.
 Prussia, King of, 73.
 Pryg, William, 218.
 Prymmyng, Alexander, 80.
 Pryse, John, 135.
 Pummay, Mark, 270.
 Puninges, Adam de, 174.
 Pupp, George, 146, 269.
 Purple, Henry, 139.
 Purseglove, 149.
 Putland, John, 149, 261.
 William, 267.
 Puttenden, Philippa, 131, 265.
 Pycombe, Walter, 226, 228.
 Pye, Simon, 142.
 Thomas, 218.
 William, 142.
 Pyggeferle, Girard de, 202.
 Pyk, William, 41.
 Pylche, Margaret, 263.
 Pynelyn, 146.
 Pynson, John, 145.
 Quester, Edmund, 261.
 Quik, 228.
 Rabbed, Elizabeth, 260.
 Radford, Elizabeth, 267.
 William, 131.
 Radde, John, 188.
 Radmyle, John de, 205.
 Thomas de, 208.
 Ramder, Elizabeth, 265.
 Randall, Dorothy, 262.
 Edward, 265.
 John, 259.
 Robert, 246.
 Rannet, John, 37.

Ratford, Thomas, 126.
 Reade [A'Rede, Reed], Elizabeth, 271.
 Hugh, 167.
 Jeremiah, 120, 139, 167, 272.
 John, 86, 90, 139, 149, 167.
 Parnell, 259.
 Robert, 94, 167.
 Thomas, 167, 269.
 William, 53, 80, 99, 139, 167.
 Reder, Henry, 80, 167.
 John, 82, 94, 144, 167, 168.
 Richard, 94.
 Thomas, 167.
 William, 94.
 Redediche, Alexander de la, 179.
 Thomas de, 177.
 Redeness, John, 45.
 Robert, 45.
 Redeswelle, John de, 209.
 Reeve, John, 142.
 Reimfre, Goteline, son of, 184.
 Joceline, son of, 174.
 Roger, son of, 174.
 Remigius, John, son of, 23.
 Remyot, John, 185, 186.
 Richard, 185.
 Renn, John, 261.
 Philip, 155.
 Richard, 79.
 Reyner, Ann, 272.
 Reynolds, John, 61, 264.
 Leonard, 262.
 Simon, 142.
 William, 259.
 Ria, Vincent de, 184.
 Ricarville, William de, 184.
 Rich, George, 61.
 Henry, 61.
 Richards, Mathew, 94.
 Richardson, Robert, 146, 255.
 Richer, John, 126.
 Rickman, Alexander, 73.
 Daniel, 2.
 Edwin, 61.
 Samuel, 73, 149.
 Rikethon, Richard, 141.
 Roads, Thomas, 151.
 Robert, John, 164.
 Roberts, Ann, 259.
 John, 253.
 Thomas, 270.
 Robertsbridge, Abbot of, 180, 181, 247.
 Robins, John, 261.
 Margaret, 262.
 Robert, 30.
 Robinson, Margaret, 263.
 Rochford, Lord, 192.
 Rogers, 267.
 Ann, 271.
 Nicholas, 268.
 Rolfe [Rauffe, Rowfe], Dorothy, 260.
 George, 260.

Rolfe [Rauffe, Rowfe], Jane, 262.
 John, 260, 262.
 Margaret, 261.
 Mary, 268.
 Muchmercy, 94.
 Richard, 259.
 Romanale, Robert, 126.
 Roo, Robert, 145.
 Roos, William de, 74.
 Rootes, 83, 195.
 Alice, 26.
 George, 80.
 James, 51, 193.
 John, 26, 84, 90.
 Thomas, 6, 193.
 Roper, Thomas, 29.
 Roster, William, 259.
 Roust, Richard, 149.
 Robert, 255.
 William, 255.
 Rowe, Mary, 268.
 Royden, William, 28, 133.
 Rucke, Annis, 263.
 John, 120, 139.
 Ruddock, 194.
 Rufus, Adam, 182.
 Rug, Alfred le, 23.
 Rugteburgh, William de, 43.
 Runte, Baldwin, 177.
 Robert, 142.
 Runtington, Richard de, 70, 99.
 Russell, Alice, 37, 67.
 David, 272.
 Elizabeth, 263, 268.
 Joan, 265.
 John, 36, 37, 67, 195, 218.
 Lucy, 203, 204.
 Robert, 74, 75.
 Solomon, 36, 67.
 William, 203.
 Russia, Emperor of, 73.
 Rydelay, Elizabeth, 260.
 Sackville [Saukvyl], Andrew, 141, 273.
 Ela de, 173, 179, 180.
 Galfrid de, 173, 174, 179, 184.
 Humfrey, 73, 90.
 John, 246.
 Jordan de, 173, 176, 180, 200.
 Richard, 5, 82, 83, 90, 106,
 247, 252.
 Robert, 253.
 Thomas, 69, 71, 207, 252, 275.
 Sage, Joan, 261.
 John, 82.
 St. Alban, Reinald de, 174.
 William de, 174.
 St. Clare [Seyntcler], Joan, 212.
 John, 207.
 Sir Philip, 212.
 William, 213.
 St. John, Edward, 219.

St. John, Frances, 265.
 St. Leger, Galfrid, 157, 180.
 Sale, Catherine, 260.
 Salter, Simon, 177.
 Salvey, Kerby, 57.
 Sampson, Richard King, 60, 140.
 William, 151, 224, 226, 228.
 Sampton, Alice, 263.
 Henry, 262.
 Sander [Saunders], Agnes, 160.
 John, 44, 75.
 Margaret, 75.
 Matilda, 75.
 Robert, 75.
 Thomas, 160.
 William, 75.
 Sands, Anthony, 247.
 Sansum, 257.
 Sargent, William, 258.
 Sauvage, John le, 67.
 Savoy, Peter de, 22, 31.
 Sawbridge, 30.
 Sawyer, Thomas, 138.
 Say, Galfrid de, 42.
 Sayer, Margaret, 81.
 Robert, 81, 143.
 Scarlet, Benjamin, 87.
 William, 182.
 Schacklok, John, 142.
 Scherreve, James, 90.
 Scott, Luke, 170.
 William, 141.
 Seavenoakes, *see* Sinnock.
 Seille, Agatha de, 173, 175.
 Lucian de, 173, 175.
 Seld, Joan, 262.
 Selhershe, Shemaia, 51, 193.
 Sellington, William, 179.
 Selwyn, John, 7.
 Nicholas, 193.
 Thomas, 193, 253.
 Sessingham, Philip de, 125, 207, 208,
 224.
 Richard de, 212.
 Robert de, 183.
 William de, 179, 183, 184, 205,
 206, 219.
 Sewal, 174.
 Seye, John, 110, 111.
 Seyksall, Richard, 128.
 Sharp, John, 144.
 Robert, 262.
 Shelley, 149, 151.
 Benjamin, 12.
 Shelvestrode, William de, 219.
 Shepherd, Ann, 263.
 Elizabeth, 259.
 John, 142.
 William, 5, 90.
 Sheppard, Thomas, 112, 137.
 Sherman, John, 44.
 Sherwood, Frederick, 116, 117, 119.

Sherwood, Medora Sophia, 119.
 Sherwyn, Abraham, 194.
 James, 194.
 Thomas, 194.
 Shoeswell, Roger, 76, 77.
 Shoosmith, Thomas, 261.
 Shuckburgh, George Augustus, 197.
 Simon the Merchant, 39.
 Simmons, Hannah, 157.
 John, 260.
 Mary, 271.
 William, 61.
 Sinnock [Seavenoakes, Sennock],
 Colonel, 13.
 Henry Charles, 13.
 John, 96, 149.
 Nicholas, 10, 139, 146, 255.
 Skinner, Alice, 263.
 George, 262.
 Thomas, 265.
 William, 139, 260.
 Slater, Agnes, 163.
 Slye, Charles, 273.
 William, 13, 273.
 Smith [Smythe], Abigaile, 139.
 Ambrose, 253.
 Anthony, 253.
 Catherine, 259.
 Desire, 49, 132, 169.
 Elizabeth, 132, 169.
 Henry, 59, 80.
 James, 270.
 John, 133, 246.
 Margaret, 261.
 Mary, 262.
 Samuel, 61.
 Symond, 230.
 Ursula, 262.
 William, 255.
 Smythson, John, 83.
 Snatt, Mary, 57.
 William, 257.
 Snayle, Abraham, 265.
 William, 261.
 Snickfield, Joan, 268.
 Snowe, Constance, 260.
 Elizabeth, 193, 270.
 George, 84, 167.
 James, 164, 193.
 John, 193.
 Mary, 266.
 Peter, 96, 167.
 Richard, 168.
 Robert, 129.
 Thomas, 28, 83, 138, 145, 167.
 Somer, John, 144.
 Sommenir, Richard le, 185.
 Thomas le, 39, 162.
 Sotharin, William, 95.
 Souter, Hawys le, 39.
 Philip le, 39.
 Southwark, Archdeacon of, 98.

- Sparow, Thomas, 80.
 Speg, 174.
 Spencer, John, 141.
 Richard, 208, 275.
 Robert, 70.
 Spicer, John, 207, 208, 209.
 Spigurnel, Henry, 67.
 Spinner, John, 111.
 Ned, 261.
 Sprenham, Thomas de, 39.
 Stace, William, 205.
 Stafford, Laurence, 253.
 Stalmon, Henry, 52.
 Stambler, Richard, 142.
 Stanaker, Thomas, 230.
 Standen, Elizabeth, 260.
 Robert, 262.
 Stannener, 146.
 Stapley, John, 86.
 Richard, 76, 77.
 Thomas, 195.
 Steene, Elizabeth, 269.
 Stephenson, John, 129.
 Stephen, Stephen, son of, 185.
 Stephens, 149.
 Stevens, Thomas, 206.
 William, 12.
 Stocke, Thomas, 259.
 Stockle, 94.
 Stokes, Richard, 218.
 Stone, Desire, 49.
 Dorothy, 94.
 George, 49.
 William, 52, 53, 270.
 Zealous, 49, 94.
 Stoneacre, Robert, 226, 228, 234.
 Stonestreet, Catherine, 168.
 George, 52.
 Henry, 168.
 Mary, 168.
 Nicholas, 11, 168, 169.
 Philippa, 168.
 Stephen, 168.
 William, 10, 11, 86, 161, 168, 169.
 Stonhurst, Richard, 207, 208.
 Stonlegh, Robert, 143.
 Stowell, William, 264.
 Strickland, William, 13, 20, 116.
 Strode, Sir George, 51, 69, 72, 86, 87, 88.
 Stroker, 256.
 Strutfield, 151.
 Stubley, 146.
 Studley, Nathaniel, 267.
 Stydell, Eleanor, 264.
 Styler, Ann, 265.
 John, 260.
 Sumner [Somner], Richard, 54.
 Stephen, 194, 195.
 William, 86.
 Swaine, Alice, 259, 262.
 Constance, 261.
 Swaine, Edmund, 261.
 Elias, 27, 28, 132, 139, 169.
 Elizabeth, 261.
 Emily, 261.
 John, 5, 169, 260.
 Laurence, 262.
 Margaret, 259, 263.
 Martha, 55, 263.
 Mary, 262.
 Mildred, 264.
 Robert, 261.
 Thomas, 145, 169, 263.
 Swan, Hugh, 41.
 John, 189.
 Swift, Elizabeth, 270.
 Tanner, Edward, 149.
 Elizabeth, 261.
 Richard le, 41.
 Thomas, 141.
 William, 75.
 Tattersell, John, 146.
 Taylor, Ann, 272.
 James Thomas, 137.
 Jane, 269.
 John, 71.
 J. G. S., 71.
 Matthew, 264.
 Tomzyne, 259.
 William, 142, 264.
 Tealing, Mary, 265.
 Tedbrith, Robert, 38.
 Temple, James, 133, 267.
 Templo, William de, 100, 123.
 Terlling, Thomas, 262.
 Terrell, Elizabeth, 262.
 Joan, 263.
 Terry, Samuel, 61.
 Tester, 149.
 Tharpe, Betteris, 261.
 Mildred, 259.
 Thatcher [Theccher], Andrew, 44.
 George, 264.
 James, 111, 131, 193, 254.
 John, 29, 86, 106, 236.
 Laurence, 138.
 Nicholas, 261.
 Richard, 194, 195.
 Thomas, 236, 245.
 Theelond, William, 245.
 Thille, Allured de, 37.
 Thomas, Alice, 264.
 Elizabeth, 268.
 John, 83, 264.
 Morgan, 69.
 Thomason, 70.
 Barbara, 86, 131.
 Elizabeth, 86, 131.
 Katherine, 169.
 Miles, 86, 131.
 William, 131.
 Thompson, John, 122, 135.

- Thornecraste, John, 263.
 Thornton, Thomas, 262.
 Thorpe, 11, 149.
 Threill, Galfrid, 141.
 Thomas, 87, 88.
 Thunder, 146.
 Thomas, 209.
 Ticehurst, John, 270.
 Mary, 268.
 Philippa, 260.
 Tindall, Mary, 132, 157.
 William, 139, 146.
 Toby, John, 44.
 Tochi, 80.
 Tomelyn, 146.
 Tomer, Leonard, 228.
 Tomkyn, Jerdinius, 256.
 Tomset, Jane, 264.
 Tonywell, Richard, 189.
 Torriano, Nicholas, 113.
 Toune, Laurence de la, 99, 123.
 Trachard, Richard, 162.
 Trapel, John, 142.
 William, 142.
 Trapson, William, 265.
 Tredcroste, Giles, 260.
 Treherne, Morgan, 69.
 Morgan Dalrymple, 69, 71.
 Treglas, Jane, 262.
 Matthew, 259, 261.
 Trumble, Anthony, 118, 146, 256.
 Trusseville, Reginald de, 182.
 William de, 182.
 Tuberel, Thomas, 141.
 Tunbridge, Prior of, John, 219.
 Tuppen, Elizabeth, 266.
 Turk, Barnaby, 263.
 Richard, 186.
 Turle, Joan, 261.
 Joan, 151.
 Thomas, 151.
 Turnham, Michael de, 174, 184.
 Robert de, 178, 180.
 Turner, John, 141.
 Richard, 44, 75.
 Turvill, Mary, 269.
 Tutt, Alexander, 90.
 Alice, 170.
 Ann, 267.
 Catherine, 265.
 Joan, 259.
 John, 70, 146, 166, 169, 170, 255.
 Richard, 80, 145, 160, 169.
 Robert, 144, 263.
 Simon, 80, 261.
 Thomas, 149, 151.
 Twisden, Constance, 262.
 Joan, 261.
 John, 5.
 Richard, 171.
 Thomas, 145, 261, 262, 263.
- Twisele, Gerard de, 179.
 Twit, Abraham, 169.
 Alice, 75.
 Edward, 27, 28.
 John, 75, 111.
 Richard, 75.
 Robert, 74, 75, 111.
 Thomas, 75.
 William, 76.
 Tye, John de, 174.
 Thomas atte, 141.
 Tyllye, Peter, 264.
 Tyrel, Berenger, 214.
 Thomas, 260, 262.
 Tyttye, William, 263.
- Ulric, 174.
 Umfrey, John, 107.
 Underdowne, Ann, 264.
 Mary, 265.
 Stephen, 265.
 Underwood, W. J., 137.
 Unwyne, Francis, 265.
 Unyon, John, 261.
 Upton, Abraham, 267.
 John, 221.
 Richard, 213.
 Urlesbam, John de, 210.
- Vale, William, 228.
 Van Cortlandt, Colonel Philip, 13, 119.
 Vennell, Alice, 263.
 Verdun, Amice de, 175.
 Richard de, 175.
 Verges, Thomas, 128.
 Verrall, Thomas, 268.
 William, 256.
 Veteri Monasterio, Richard de, 217.
 Vine, John, 267.
 Vyns the Jew, 36.
 Virgo, 72.
 Elizabeth, 264.
 Vurgine, Thomas, 144.
 Vynch, John, 92.
- Wachman, 146.
 Wade, Edward, 84.
 Laurence, 5, 6.
 William, 80, 268.
 Wakeham, 146.
 Wakeland, Edmund, 271.
 Wakelyn, Matthew, 146, 255.
 Walain, Thomas, 213.
 Walcocke, Henry, 261.
 Waldis, Matthew de, 185.
 Walker, Henry, 150.
 John, 150, 152, 257.
 Wallere, 228.
 Wallwayn, Roger, 164, 189.
 Walwin, John, 133.
 Wanlingburgh, Robert de, 43, 207, 208.

Wannemere [Wanmer], John, 75, 76.
 Peter, 76, 141, 142.
 Richard, 75.
 Thomas, 44, 75, 76.
 Wannoc, Gervase de, 185.
 Matilda de, 185.
 Simon de, 125.
 Waran, Thomas, 263.
 Warberton, William de, 179.
 Ward, George W. Crofts, 137.
 Robert, 177.
 Wareman, Margaret, 167.
 Waresdeane, John, 90.
 Warnesals, William, 141.
 Warrenne, Isabella de, 199, 214.
 John de, 214.
 William de, 77, 95, 174, 214.
 Warreyne, Henry, 213.
 Warwic, Hugh de, 175.
 Waterhouse, Edmund, 138.
 Luke, 54.
 Richard, 52, 259.
 Waterman, Elizabeth, 271.
 George, 263.
 John, 246.
 Waters, Samuel, 146.
 Watkins, Henry, 195.
 Watson, Jane, 260.
 William, 260.
 Watte, 146.
 Weavers, John, 270.
 Webb, Richard, 126.
 Thomas Bonnell, 64, 118.
 Weekes, Alice, 263.
 Laurence, 263.
 Welch, Thomas Robinson, 136, 274.
 Weliland, Richard de, 182.
 Weller, Henry, 150, 152.
 Thomas, 87.
 William, 150, 151.
 Welling, Thomas, 52.
 Wells [Wellys], Christopher, 260.
 Mary, 261.
 Peter, 261.
 Richard, 52.
 Wenham, 150.
 Ann, 134.
 Elizabeth, 135.
 George, 135.
 Herbert, 94.
 John, 134, 135, 195, 274.
 Stephen, 94.
 Susan, 265, 268.
 West, Elizabeth, 254.
 John, 230, 231, 232, 234, 235.
 Westham, Churchwardens of, 247.
 Weston, Constance, 270.
 Richard, 223, 224.
 Thomas, 146.
 William, 128.
 Whate, John, 268.
 Wheatley, 70.

White, Gervase, 24.
 Jane, 167, 272.
 John, 53, 54.
 Mabel, 79.
 Mildred, 263.
 Nicholas, 263.
 Richard, 265.
 Simon, 79.
 Whitfeld, Robert, 110.
 Whiting, Charles, 61.
 Whitmill, 3.
 Whytyngton, John, 235.
 Wickenden, Thomas, 203.
 William, 246.
 Wickins, Allan, 261, 263.
 Elizabeth, 260.
 Mary, 261, 265.
 Wigg, Nicholas, 167.
 Roger, 215.
 Thomas, 270.
 Wigsell, Christopher, 259.
 Joan, 260.
 Wilcocke, Lucy, 271.
 Wilding, Suzanna, 269.
 William, 269.
 Wileb, Richard, 185.
 Wilendon, Hugh de, 185.
 Job de, 185.
 Richard de, 185.
 Wilesham, Adam de, 74.
 Alexander de, 74.
 Cecilia de, 74.
 Wilkins, Elizabeth, 268.
 Willard, Ann, 172.
 Annis, 263.
 Catherine, 171.
 Christopher, 171.
 Felix, 172, 262, 265.
 George, 172, 262, 263.
 Harriet, 72.
 Henry, 172.
 Jane, 268.
 Joan, 172, 264.
 John, 80, 142, 144, 170, 171,
 172, 218, 259.
 Col. John Harry, 118.
 Laurence, 170.
 Nicholas, 30, 145, 171, 172.
 Piers, 170.
 Richard, 143, 171.
 Robert, 113, 129, 158, 171.
 Roger, 143, 171.
 Thomas, 30, 72, 144, 150, 171,
 172.
 Thomas Rogers, 172.
 William, 41, 142, 171.
 Willeford, Edward, 50.
 Nicholas, 264.
 Willingdon, Vicar of, 127.
 William, 20, 21, 72, 182.
 Richard, son of, 174.
 Williams, Simon, 262.

- Willis, John, 269.
 Thomas, 235.
 Wilmington, Earl of, 70, 258.
 Prior of, 222.
 Wilson, William, 128.
 Wiltoneshurst, John, 125.
 Wimble, Joan, 271.
 John, 145.
 Wimshurst, Gregory, 138.
 Winter, Ann, 194, 195.
 Elizabeth, 161, 270.
 Margaret, 259.
 Nicholas, 195.
 Richard, 194.
 Wiver, Wlfi, 174.
 Wlfric, 182.
 Wlward, 174.
 Woddier, Humility, 266.
 Wodeland, Isabella, 270.
 Randolph, 170.
 Wodesonese, William, 41, 124, 125.
 Wolsey, Cardinal, 109, 188, 192.
 Woodcock, Henry, 268.
 Woodgate, 28.
 Edmund, 71.
 John, 71.
 Katherine, 71.
 Peter, 71, 83, 193.
 Woodhams, Walter, 151, 195.
 William, 195.
 Woodman, Richard, 48.
 Woods [Wood], Ann, 271.
 Damaris, 132.
 Deborah, 132.
 Henry, 150.
 Jacob, 30.
 John, 53, 57, 60, 139, 146, 150,
 157, 262, 265.
 Judith, 132.
 Mary, 267.
 Michael, 146.
 Richard, 12, 150, 151, 272.
 Thomas, 132.
 Woods [Wood], William, 146, 213.
 Woodsell, Joan, 265.
 John, 94.
 Woodward, William, 135.
 Woolfe, John, 263.
 Woorgier, Catherine, 265.
 John, 12.
 Thomas, 264, 265.
 Worcester, William de, 213.
 Worthiall, John, 237.
 Wotton, William, 224.
 Wredon, Elizabeth, 271.
 Wright, John, 51.
 Wrotham, William de, 202.
 Wurthe, Emma de, 185.
 Ranulf de, 185.
 Wyberd, Robert, 144, 218.
 Wyddett [Wythoth], Annis, 261.
 Bartholomew, 142.
 Constance, 263.
 John, 144, 188, 221.
 Juliana, 81.
 Richard, 80.
 Simon, 81, 93, 142, 143, 144.
 Wymarke, Henry, 193.
 John, 271.
 Wynam, Agnes, 154.
 Joan, 70.
 Margaret, 264.
 Matilda, 144.
 Nicholas, 70, 154, 158.
 Wynchelse, Laurence, 226, 228.
 Wynd, Simon, 142.
 Wynswyst, Hugh, 261.
 John, 245, 246.
 Thomas, 80, 191.
 Wythend, Stephen, 142.
 Yerdale, John, 224.
 Young, Mary, 256.
 William, 256.
 Zetland, Thomas, Earl of, 197.

INDEX LOCORUM.

- Abbots Borough, 6, 7.
 Abbots Wood, 94.
 Alciston, 4, 21, 92, 93, 94, 206, 271.
 Aldrington, 126.
 Alfriston, 45, 211, 212, 213, 244, 246, 247, 251.
 Allendown, 6, 7.
 Ambefeld, 73, 174, 273.
 Ambeleggh, 73, 93.
 Amberstone, 2, 4, 5, 6, 61, 64, 72, 73, 90, 91.
 Ambroses [Amberons], 73, 150, 164, 256.
 Amfields, 149.
 Apuldram, 22.
 Aquila [Egle], Honor of, 22, 26, 31, 32, 89, 91, 96, 166, 187, 205, 206, 207, 209, 219, 222, 223, 225, 253.
 Arlattfield, 6.
 Arlington [Erlington], 5, 91, 127, 156, 198, 202, 205, 207, 209, 215, 217, 221, 244, 245, 267, 268, 270.
 Arundel, 133.
 Ashburnham, 268, 269, 270.
 Ashdown Forest [Escetune], 92, 131, 166, 202, 204.
 Avenden (Kent), 162.
 Avereys [Alveries, Auferyes], 27, 28, 80, 81, 84, 86, 95, 159, 258.
 Bakehousefield, 250.
 Baldeslei Hundred, 74.
 Barcombe, 268.
 Barnards Corner, 5, 6.
 Barnett [la Bernette], 79, 82, 84, 85, 92, 150, 151, 156, 159.
 Barnehorn, 125.
 Barracks, the, 12, 63.
 Bartlett's Place, 70.
 Battle, 65, 214, 269, 270, 271.
 Abbey, 68, 92, 207, 209, 214.
 Bayham [Begham] Abbey, 158, 178, 180, 204, 207, 221, 230, 234.
 Beachy Head [la Beauchieff], 223, 236.
 Bearfields, 147, 148.
 Beasom, 151.
 Beckley, 117, 135.
 Beddinghams, 71, 80, 86, 87, 150.
 Beeches, 70, 84, 85.
 Bellbanks, 15, 60, 121.
 Bentons, 194.
 Bere, 70, 84, 101, 102, 150, 244, 250.
 Bergscroft, 194.
 Berwick, 4, 24, 26.
 Betts, the, 149, 169.
 Beverington, 91, 205.
 Bexhill [Bixle], 127, 209, 223.
 Bishopstone, 270.
 Blacklane, 245.
 Blackwell, 70, 151, 158.
 Blatchington, 272.
 Bodiam, 129.
 Bodle Street, 155.
 Bokholte, 82.
 Boltacre, 245.
 Boot House, 148.
 Boreship, 258.
 Bowley [Boghele], 4, 5, 6, 13, 51, 72, 82, 182, 273, 274.
 Bowens Gutt, 5.
 Bouny Gutt, 6.
 Bowneys, 147.
 Braborne (Kent), 162.
 Bradbridge, 22.
 Bramble Grove Wood, 250, 258.
 Brambleland, 85.
 Brayes Marsh, 86, 87, 150.
 Brayes Wish, 148.
 Brede, 76.
 Brenchley [Brenchesle], 200, 268.
 Bridgefield, 255.
 Brightling, 268, 272.
 Brighton, 202, 204, 207, 209, 215, 246, 250, 251.
 Broad, the, 72, 181.
 Brockley (Kent), 179.
 Brodemersh, 244, 250.
 Brooke, the, 84, 101, 147.
 Broomeland, 156.
 Broughton, 246, 250, 251.
 Broyle, 199, 200.
 Brunts Corner, 5, 6.
 Buddes Grove, 111.
 Buddislond, 70.
 Bullocke, 156, 250.
 Burne, *see* Eastbourne.
 Burnt Land, 2.
 Burton, 202.
 Burtons Grove, 111.
 Burwash, 188, 269, 271.
 Busheyfield, 2, 7, 72.
 Buskheye, 93, 141, 144, 149.
 Butterwedges, 150, 256.
 Buxted, 196, 268, 271.
 Byrchedown, 75, 245.
 Cacklebury, 4, 17, 18, 61.
 Caffinches [Chafinches], 86, 151.

Caldeburgh, *see* Coolbrook.
 Canes, 94.
 Cane Heath, 200.
 Capstocks, 151.
 Carpenters, 83, 86, 151, 169.
 Carters Corner, 2.
 Chailey, 271.
 Chalvington [Chaunton], 157, 265, 268,
 269, 273.
 Chandlers, 151.
 Chapple Lands, 71.
 Charleston, 21.
 Chawland, 28.
 Chenenolle, 80.
 Cherry Croft, 59, 194.
 Chesehouse Marsh, 151, 250.
 Chichester Cathedral, 127, 166, 171.
 Chiddingly, 164, 172, 235, 255, 267, 269,
 270.
 Chilleye, 71, 150.
 Chilley's Garden, 76.
 Chinting, 201, 204, 216, 236, 246, 250,
 251.
 Cinque Ports, 79, 143, 144.
 Cliffe, 120, 269, 271.
 Clune, 223.
 Cnolle, 80, 274.
 Cocke, 159.
 Coldthorn, 147.
 Collards, 27, 28, 29.
 Collingerof, 194.
 Collinghagg, 82, 86.
 Collinghams, 147, 150.
 Collins Gutt, 70.
 Collyars Gutt, 87.
 Common, Hailsham, 10, 12, 29, 60, 61,
 63, 65, 156, 172, 255, 256, 258.
 Connemersh, 204.
 Coneyburrows, 196.
 Coolbrook, 6, 7, 185, 206, 246, 253.
 Coolsgate, 6, 7, 70.
 Cop Hall, 73, 179.
 Coppards, 147.
 Corie, la [Currey], 71, 204, 245.
 Cotten Row, 28, 256.
 Cowbrooks, 28.
 Cowden, 203, 246, 247, 250, 252.
 Cowfields, 51, 250.
 Cowfold, 136.
 Cralle [Crawley], 6, 85, 153.
 Cranbrooke, 70, 134, 169.
 Crokerne, 168, 245, 250.
 Croker Row, 29.
 Crowborough, 137.
 Crowchers, 27, 28, 29, 167.
 Crowherst, 179.
 "Crown," the, 11, 168, 169.
 Cuckmere, 7, 198, 200.
 Cuckfield, 165.
 Cutts Crofts, 7, 85, 193.
 Dallington, 268.

Deadlands, 28, 149, 156.
 Deanes, the, 51, 111, 148, 149.
 Denton, 270.
 Dess's, 255.
 Devenish Wish, 71, 84, 86, 87.
 Dicker, 93, 183, 198, 199, 200, 247, 253,
 254, 255, 256.
 Dill [Thill] Hundred, 1, 31, 35, 44, 91,
 92, 143, 144, 158, 160, 167,
 201, 225.
 Dinesland, 83, 194.
 Dirty's, 72, 150.
 Ditchling, 84.
 Ditton, 184, 202, 245, 250.
 Dobbishmarsh, 151, 167, 245, 250.
 Doubles Land, 148.
 Downash [la Doune], 4, 7, 15, 51, 67,
 68, 69, 71, 72, 82, 83, 84, 85,
 86, 123, 148, 151, 156, 167,
 204, 244, 250, 251.
 Dowland, 159.
 Dudington [Daddingtons], 51, 164, 174,
 176, 186, 191, 194, 274.
 Dunce, Great and Little, 205.
 Dunsings, 92, 93, 95.
 Dustys, 71, 85.
 Eastbourne [Burne], 12, 23, 37, 48, 72,
 83, 127, 128, 130, 177, 178,
 187, 207, 223, 236, 246, 250,
 271.
 East Dean, 136, 175, 270.
 East Grinstead, 86, 133, 219.
 East Guldeford, 135.
 East Hoathly, 164.
 East Marsh, 110, 112, 151.
 Echingham, 272.
 Eggesdon, 204.
 Eldecourte, 208.
 Endlenewick, 32, 73, 144.
 Ersham, 4, 5, 18, 23, 28, 29, 82, 84, 89,
 119, 172.
 Esceham, 183.
 Escetune, 166.
 Eton College, 109.
 Ewhurst Tongue, 70.
 Exceit, 175.
 Eylbrihtesham, 274.
 Fackham Marsh, 27, 28, 29, 70, 167.
 Fair Place, 187, 255.
 Farnestrete [Varnstrete], 6, 176, 179,
 189, 193, 194, 273.
 Fellonds [Vellonds], 80, 247, 250.
 Felmerland, 111.
 Fennells, 86.
 Filching, 159.
 Firle, 84, 99.
 Fishcroft, 76.
 Fletching, 95, 133, 211, 212, 228, 244,
 247, 251.
 Fletye, the, 71, 85, 185.

“Fleur de Lys,” the, 10.
 Flexborough [Fexbrowe] Hundred, 91,
 201, 247.
 Flodgats, 246.
 Folkington, 51, 135, 137, 164, 205, 208,
 216, 247, 267, 268, 271.
 Footers, 151.
 Foterflete, 83, 24, 244.
 Fordington (Dorset), 254.
 Foulride, 220.
 Foxes, the, 87.
 Fox Hall, 2.
 Franks Marsh, 156.
 Frant, 128, 163.
 Framfield, 122, 269, 271.
 Friston, 126, 235, 269, 272.
 Frye, the, 87.
 Fythercroft, 74.

 Gardners Land, 5, 6.
 Gardner Street, 20, 61.
 Garretts, the, 14, 61, 110, 112.
 Gawygrove, 250.
 “George,” the, 14.
 Gilridge Wood, 2.
 Gilridge Farm, 7, 147.
 Glenleigh [Glynly, Greenly], 3, 17, 71,
 80, 85, 87, 88.
 Glynde, 133, 169, 267.
 Godhope [Gordhoppe, Goldup], 6, 7,
 250, 257.
 Godyng, 223.
 Gormans Wood, 61.
 Goosemarsh, 87.
 Gosecroft, 93.
 Goslings, 70.
 Gotham, 4, 6, 76.
 Goudhurst, 139.
 Greenfield Marsh, 149.
 Greggeslond, 203.
 “Grenadier,” the, 12, 63.
 Grenelonde, 5.
 Grenestreete, 84.
 Greseland, 111.
 Gretebromefeld, 92.
 Grete Otham, 188, 191.
 Grovebridge, 5, 6, 8.
 Grovefield, 110.
 Grovelands, 28, 29, 96, 167.
 Grymes, 80.
 Guldenesaltkote, the, 184.
 Gumiton, 204.

 Hailsham [Eylesham, Helsham], 1-172
 passim, 175, 185, 186, 199, 201,
 205, 206, 209, 221, 244, 254.
 Manor, 4, 22 (*see* Ersham).
 Market, 6, 9, 31, 33, 34.
 Church, 4, 22, 80, 99, 100, 105,
 106, 108, 113, 153, 159, 164,
 165, 168, 171, 172, 189, 192,
 200, 256.

Hake, the, 5, 6, 91, 198.
 Hale, the, 27, 28, 30, 148, 169.
 Hallond, 76.
 Hamelesham, 20.
 Hamm Land, 5, 6, 166.
 Hankham, 29, 96, 218.
 Hanwell, 236.
 Harbaken Land, 29.
 Harebeating, 2, 4, 12, 15, 21, 61, 77, 95,
 111, 256.
 Harmere, 162.
 Harmershay, 149, 162, 244.
 Hartfield, 73, 90, 92, 168, 203, 246.
 Harwards Marsh, 110, 112.
 Haslesse, 21.
 Hastingsland, 27, 28, 30.
 Hastings, 79, 161, 170, 270.
 College, 95.
 Priory, 81, 95, 210, 223, 224.
 Hawkwood, 2, 91, 148.
 Hawkes Green, 5, 6, 149.
 Hawthyland Wood, 15.
 Hease, 93.
 Heathfield, 6, 44, 48, 129, 133, 267, 268,
 269, 270.
 Hedge Grove, 166.
 Heighton, 271.
 Heldheven, 101.
 Hellingly, 5, 8, 48, 60, 61, 81, 144, 149,
 153, 178, 181, 207, 209, 223,
 225, 244, 267, 268, 270, 271.
 Church, 81, 100, 103, 115, 127,
 182, 183.
 Hempstead [Hemstede], 2, 7, 12, 92.
 Prebend, 93.
 Henhard, 30.
 Hephale [Eppehalle], 80, 183, 189, 194.
 Herstmonceux, 5, 45, 76, 168, 256, 269,
 272, 274.
 Hertham, 184.
 Heseldon, 202, 204.
 Heyland Marsh, 88.
 Hide of Milton, the, 17, 91, 198, 200,
 256.
 Highfield, 6.
 Highlands, 7, 221.
 High Wallands, 6, 7, 246, 250.
 High Street, the, 6, 10, 52, 153.
 Hodieland, 90.
 Hogbroke, 28, 29, 250.
 Hokgate, 5, 6.
 Holburne Hill, 147, 255.
 Holewyche, 203, 204, 246, 247, 252.
 Holmemarsh, 150, 250.
 Holmestalls Marsh, 6, 7, 51, 151.
 Homestreu Hundred, 77.
 Honey Crocks, 3.
 Hoee, 65, 113, 135, 267, 269.
 Hooks, the, 28, 70.
 Hop Garden Wood, 2.
 Hopperslond, 206.
 Hope lands, 71.

Horsebridge [Herstbridge], 5, 6, 7, 245,
 250, 255, 256.
 Horseye, 15, 71, 72, 79, 96, 154, 166, 184,
 186, 274.
 Hothlands, 257.
 Housefield, 61.
 Hya, 184.
 Icklesham, 135, 184.
 Isfield, 269.
 Isenhurst, 144, 202, 204, 228, 245, 250,
 251, 252.
 Isle Land, 88.
 Iverrikkesham, 22, 23, 89, 90.
 Janeat Wish, 70.
 Jesshams, 147.
 Jesus Marsh, 250.
 Jevington, 27, 159, 179, 189, 202, 203,
 204, 206, 207, 209, 246, 250,
 251, 273.
 Jordans, 27, 28, 29, 82, 167.
 Joyeshouse, 27, 28, 29, 89.
 Joyes Marsh, 27, 29, 71, 151.
 Katherine, St., Hospital of, 216.
 Kelle, 202, 246, 250.
 Kenerede, 184.
 Kennington, 136.
 Keymer, 271.
 Kilbroke [Kylbeck], 245, 250.
 Kings Acre, 87.
 Kings Wish, 84, 87, 88, 150.
 Kings Brook, 6.
 "King's Head," the, 16.
 Kippings Marsh, 81, 83, 86.
 Kirby Croft, 13, 149, 168.
 Kitchen Lands, 71.
 Knapsall's Bridge, 70.
 Knaves Acres, 3.
 Knock-Hatch, 2, 13, 16, 92, 93, 147, 162,
 202, 246, 250, 253.
 Knolle, 80, 83.
 Kymindon, 204.
 Lachewyssh, 188.
 Lady Marsh, Upper and Nether, 111.
 Lamberhurst, 129.
 Lambs Marsh, 85, 88.
 Lamelease, 80, 245.
 Lammerslond, 93.
 Lamporte, 184.
 Lancaster, Duchy of, 6, 52, 88, 188, 225,
 247.
 Landrich, 204.
 Laneys Marsh, 250.
 Langney, 21, 182, 207, 221, 236.
 Laughton [Lecton], 128, 135, 199, 200,
 217, 244, 247, 250, 251, 253.
 270, 271.
 Leamefield, 220.

Leap Cross [Lepecrouche], 2, 12, 92, 96,
 206.
 Lepelond, 93, 206.
 Levett, 80, 84.
 Lewens, the, 27, 71, 87, 151.
 Lewes, 48, 77, 85, 168, 185, 267, 272.
 Priory, 77, 95, 207, 211.
 Lichberde, 83.
 Lindfield, 86.
 Litlington, 5, 6, 39.
 Long Ershams, 7, 27, 28.
 Long Marsh, 151.
 Longsawts, 250.
 Lombardes Hall, 111.
 Lubbershall, 149.
 Losemersh, 150, 245, 250.
 Lowey, the, *see* Pevensey.
 Lowe Wall, 253.
 Ludley, 91, 153, 154, 155, 160, 163, 167,
 172.
 Luggear, 71, 85, 87, 151.
 Lullington, 270.
 Lymarke, 147.
 Lymers, 148.
 Magham Down, 4, 6, 7, 19, 61, 73, 91.
 Magham [Megham], 29, 74, 75, 76, 77,
 138, 149, 174.
 Maidstone, 134, 249.
 Malling (Kent), 268.
 Malling, South, 99, 121, 195, 216.
 Malors Sewer, 3.
 Manders, 28, 30, 149.
 Mangle Hooks, 65.
 Manninges, 91.
 Mannslode, 91.
 Manxeye, 79, 96, 205, 245.
 Maresfield, 131, 247, 252, 270.
 Marland, 3, 88, 101.
 Marledowne, 75.
 Marlepette, the, 92.
 Marlyngs, 250.
 Marshfoot, 4, 7, 9, 14, 148, 160.
 Mary-in-Marisco (Cant.), St., 126.
 Matchinges Corner, 5.
 Mauncell, 244.
 Mayfield, 48, 135, 202, 245, 268, 269,
 270, 271.
 Maystreshech, 101.
 Melgrave, 183.
 Mellonde, 75.
 Melne, 182.
 Melsfeld, 191.
 Mereshale, 165, 175.
 Mersalls, 85, 165.
 Merryfields, 147, 194, 258.
 Michelham, 44, 83, 176, 183, 199, 201,
 204, 244.
 Borough, 215.
 Hundred, 216, 253.
 Park-Gate Manor, 4, 51, 156,
 209, 215, 244, 251-258.

Michelham Priory, 153. Chaps. XIV.
—XVI.
Milkingfields Corner, 5.
Milland, 148, 151, 179, 194, 195.
Milldown, 27, 28, 30.
Milton, 202.
Milton Hide, *see* Hide and Hake.
Mines, the, 150.
Moderlac, 182.
Molecocks, 94.
Months, 147.
Montrigge [Muntrickes], 5, 76.
Moorbrook [Mulbrooks], 4, 7, 17, 65, 79,
80, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 156,
163, 167, 194, 256.
Morehall, 134.
Mors, 80.
Morths, the, 3.
Mortimans Corner, 6.
Morton, Fee of, 206.
Moryngemyll, 236.
Moselays, 150.
Mosses, 83, 85.
Mountgombre Down, 5, 7.
Mounts, 7, 193, 194.
Muskettes Croft, 156.
Myldern, 167.
Mylfeld, 79.

Nate Wood, 3, 257.
Nettellsted (Kent), 131, 265.
New Bridge, 4, 5, 6, 7, 151.
Newgate, 191.
Newmarsh, 51.
Nicholas-in-the-Shambles, St., 127.
Ninfield, 91, 113, 121, 134.
Northamtons, 147.
Northeast, 214.
North Heath, 148.
North Lea, 147, 148.
Northiam, 272.
Norton, 271.
Notebrigge, 93.

Ockley [Ockling], 5, 6, 147, 148.
Olave's, St. (Surrey), 139.
Old Court, 208, 250.
Oldhowse land, 29.
Old Land, 88.
Old Parke, 250.
Ombeford, 73, 90.
Osburnes, 85.
Otham, 44, 51, 80, 85, 90, 102, 105, 129,
150, 154, 158, 163, 164, 165,
172, 184, 250, 273.
Abbey, 74, 103, 157. Chap.
XII.
Castelry, 7, 183.
Chapel, 179, 186, 188, 189, 190.
Fair, 186, 187.
Manor, 176, 188, 189. Chap.
XIII.

Otham Quarter, 7, 79.
Oxford, Christ Church Coll., 109, 129,
132, 191.

Pachepette, 74.
Pages Beer, 70.
Panne, 245.
Parkland, 256, 257.
Parsonage field, 11, 52, 107, 148, 169.
Parsons Marsh, 151.
Partridge Thorn, 179, 194.
Peel House, 17, 70.
Pelship, 151.
Pellsers, 169.
Perifield, 111.
Perry crofts, 27, 28, 72.
Pevensey, 175, 179, 182, 183, 199, 217,
223, 267.
Castle, 37, 39, 67, 89, 176, 178,
188, 274.
Chapel, 89.
Hundred, 20, 79, 88.
Liberty [Lowey], 4, 15, 21, 52,
67, 79, 81, 142, 144, 154, 170,
187, 203, 220, 270.
Port, 155, 184, 218.
Prison, 219.

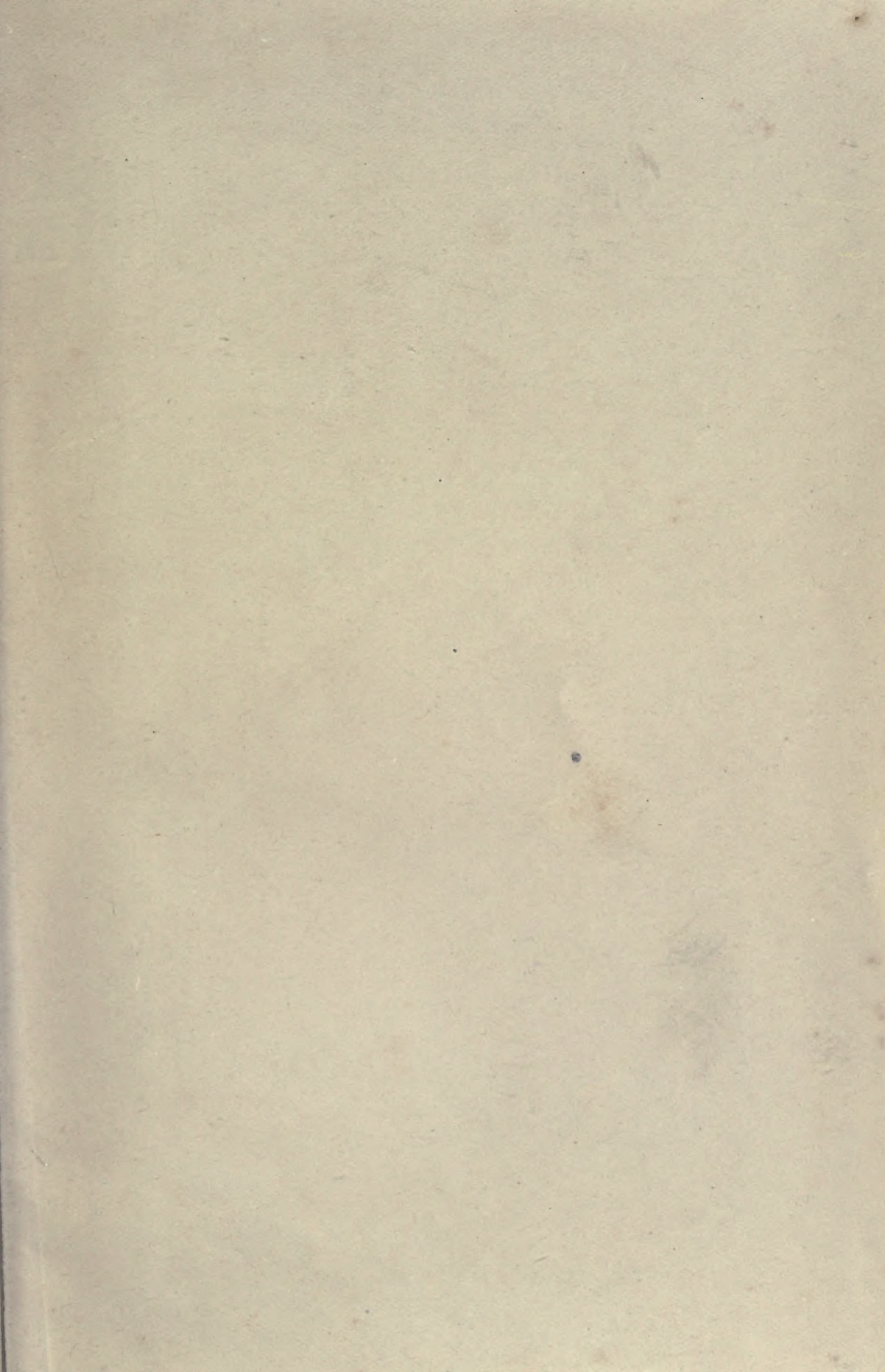
Peake, the, 111.
Pecche, 182.
Pekalea, 185.
Pickfield, 80, 245, 250.
Pickfurrs, 51.
Picks, the, 150.
Pikehay, 24, 26, 226.
Pykegate, 92.
Pykestritts, 191.
Piddinghoe, 77.
Pigmeares, 156.
Pimms, 148.
Pitfield, 250.
Plattens, 70.
Playeslond, 247.
Plenties, 94.
Plodye, 70, 150, 151.
Plumers, 148, 151.
Plumpton, 135.
Plumtree Marsh, 87.
Polegate, 4, 5, 6, 17, 19, 51, 61, 77, 149,
169, 179, 194.

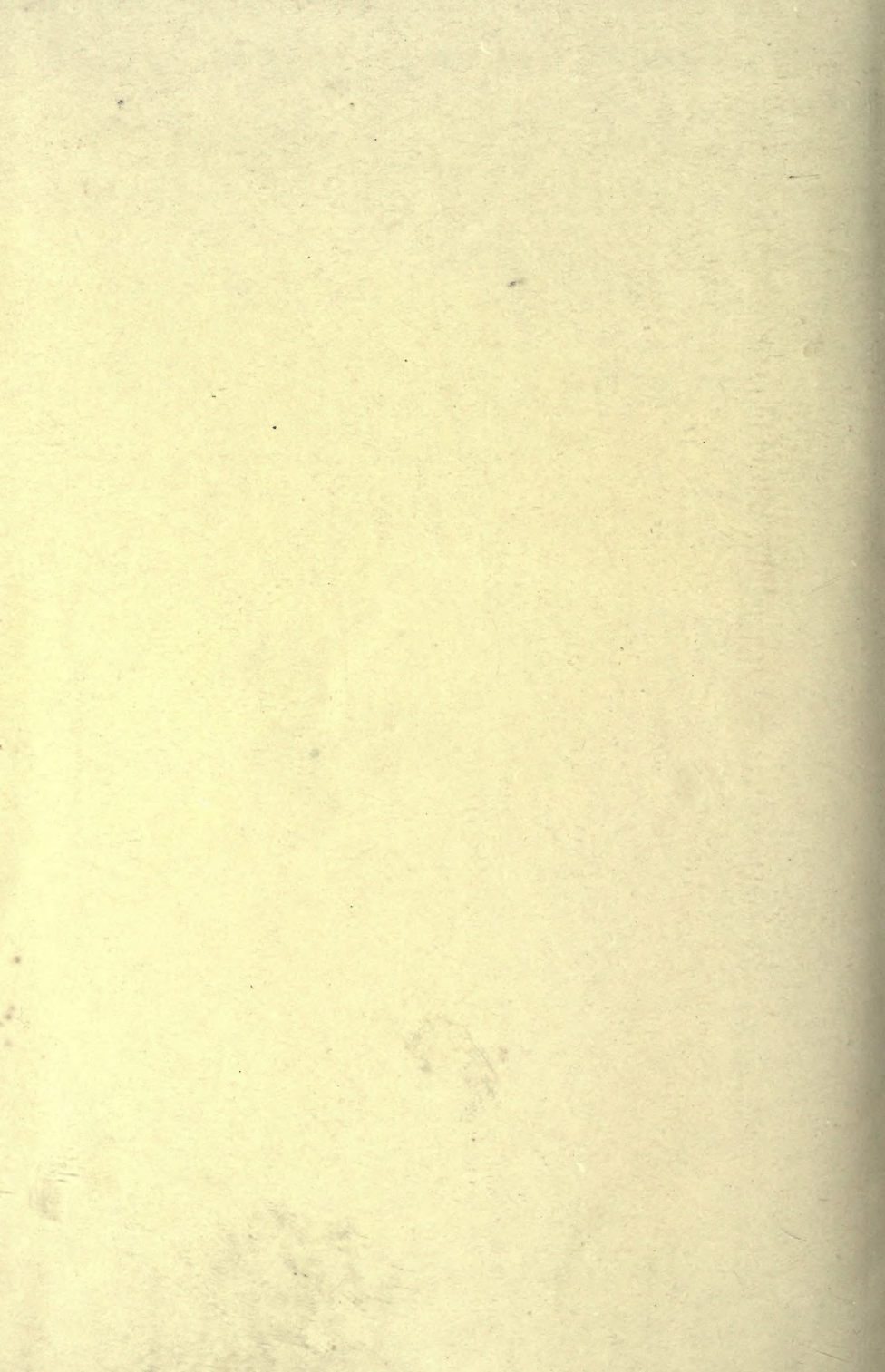
Pontyslond, 76.
Pookhold, 147.
Pooles, the, 149, 255.
Portreeve Hall, 71, 82, 85.
Potterscroft, 155, 256.
Pottgate, 51.
Poundfields [Pondfoldefeld], 51, 84, 87,
88, 148, 151.
Prescotts Marsh, 85.
Preston, 35.
Presty Land, 88.
Priest Hawes, 71, 183, 205.
Profitts, 151.

Radmell-Beverington, 91, 250.
 Ramecings, 70.
 Ramsbye, 111.
 Ratton, 20, 26.
 Readers, 85.
 Readings, the, 149.
 Reale, the, 86.
 Reden, the, 5, 6.
 Red Dyke [la Redediche], 179.
 Redgat, 159.
 Reyland, 245.
 Rickney, 15, 71, 84, 87.
 Ridwells, 148.
 Ringmer, 271, 272.
 Ripe, 41, 208, 211, 234, 235, 267, 269, 270, 271.
 Robertsbridge Abbey, 182, 234, 274.
 Robin Post Lane, 2, 17.
 Rodmell, 126.
 Rosegardeyn, the, 76.
 "Rose Taverne," the, 127.
 Rotherfield, 120, 135, 269, 270, 272.
 Ruff Lands, 149.
 Runting Down, 70.
 Rushbrooke, 84, 86, 87, 88.
 Rushey Marsh, 51, 148.
 Rye, 139.
 Sackfield garden, 5, 6.
 Saltmarsh [Shaldmersh], 17, 27, 28, 80, 84, 87, 244, 253.
 Salts, the, 151, 250.
 Sayerland [Sereland], 4, 17, 81, 102, 150, 159.
 Scoperedes, 93.
 Scorewells, 3, 149.
 Seaford, 201, 207, 209, 236, 244, 268.
 Sealand, 87, 88.
 Sebrands, 245.
 Seedinglegge, 91.
 Sellonds, 92.
 Selmeston, 235, 269, 271.
 Sessingham, 176, 200.
 Sextrey lands, 155, 252.
 Shadwells corner, 6, 151.
 Sharnfolde, 27, 244, 245, 247, 251, 252.
 Shiplate, 37.
 Shoreham, 123, 202.
 Sidenore, 202.
 Sirstreete Borough, 221.
 Six Acres, 111.
 Skokislove, 206.
 Skyers, 245.
 Snapsons Drove, 70, 81.
 Somerswysshe, 70, 188.
 Sorrell fields, 72.
 Southese, 93.
 Southlease, 88.
 Spelterche, 202.
 Sperton, 153.
 Spiggotts Marsh, 70.
 Spindle Bridge, 2, 90.

Spy Marsh, 150.
 Squabs Brook [Skobbe], 76, 149, 168.
 Starnash [Sternersshe], 5, 93, 94, 225.
 Stocks, 27, 28, 111, 147, 166.
 Stonecross, 83, 179.
 Stoneylane, 9, 10.
 Stoneylands, 70, 166.
 Stontismarsh, 83.
 Summer Hill, 7, 17, 18.
 Sutton, 207, 209, 221, 229, 244, 246, 247.
 "Swan," the, 7, 72.
 Tanners, 6, 85, 245.
 Tattersalls, 147.
 Tealmarsh, 110, 147.
 Thatchers land, 82, 85, 151.
 Thawyers, 147, 151.
 Thille, *see* Dill.
 Thistlefield, 85.
 Thorne, 176, 177, 179.
 Thorncroft, 203.
 Thunders, 194.
 Ticehurst, 271, 272.
 Tiches, 203.
 Tilehurst [Tiled house], 12, 16, 147, 149, 200, 253.
 Tilton [Telitone], 174, 175, 176, 182, 273.
 Tolls, the, 194.
 Tortington Priory, 231, 233.
 Totts, the, 194.
 Trendle Grove, 28.
 Tunbells, 151.
 Tunmannes, 206.
 Twisele, 179.
 Uckfield, 235.
 Uplands corner, 6.
 Upton Barns, 28.
 Vernons, 148.
 Vigors, 148, 149.
 Vinalls, 6, 91, 147.
 Viney Croft, 149, 168.
 Vurgines, 71.
 Wadhurst, 256, 270.
 Waldron, 44, 208, 267, 268, 270, 275.
 Wall, the, 85.
 Wallands, 5, 6, 7, 150, 221, 246.
 Wanmore, 5, 7, 149.
 Wannock, 5, 6, 252, 253.
 Warbleton, 48, 81, 199, 269, 271.
 Wardes, 85.
 Warefield, 203.
 Wartling, 21, 269, 272.
 Warwick Lane, 3, 250.
 Warwysshe, 250.
 Westcroft, 150.
 West Dean, 74, 173, 175, 270.
 Westfield, 166.

- Westham, 21, 71, 79, 83, 96, 130, 131,
132, 191, 202, 205, 206, 208,
209, 223, 236, 268.
Church, 80, 131.
- Whatlington, 170.
- Whelpye [Wholpole], 91, 110, 111.
- Whilers Hill, 169.
- White Dyke, 4, 7, 15, 29, 70, 84, 86, 126,
168.
- Whitemershe, 82, 156.
- Whitelands [Widelands], 92, 93, 95.
- Whitewell, 203.
- Wick Street, 200.
- Widiez, 82.
- Wildcrofts, 150.
- Wilesham, 74.
- Willingdon [Wilendune], 4, 27, 37, 88,
89, 90, 199, 202, 203, 206,
207, 208, 236, 247, 269.
- Willingdon Church, 90, 127, 176.
- Willowes, the, 71, 85.
- Willpins, 61, 148.
- Wilmington, 17.
Fee, 92, 93, 221.
Priory, 14, 95, 176, 198, 222,
275.
- Winchelsea, 96, 129, 170, 215.
- Windebeche, 202.
- Windsor, College of, 109.
- Wingeton, 39.
- Withiham, 132, 133.
- Wivelsfield, 135.
- Woburn Gutt, 5.
- Wooton [Wudington], 5, 185.
- Woovers, 27, 28, 156.
- Worth, 126.
- Wrenham, 245.
- Wyseke, 183.





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